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No. 468.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1904-5.

(For Report for 1903-4, *see* [Cd. 2236-65].)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

November 1905.

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No. 468.

SOMALILAND.

(For Report for 1903-4, *see* [Cd. 2236-65].)

CAPTAIN CORDEAUX to MR. LYTTELTON.

Somaliland,
Commissioner's Office,
Camp Sheikh,
7th September, 1905.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Annual Report on Somaliland for the year ended 31st March, 1905.

As this is the first occasion on which this report has been submitted in its present form, there has been considerable difficulty and delay in procuring the required information and compiling the same into the proper form. At the same time my absence on leave during the whole period covered by the report prevents my dealing with it as fully as I could have wished.

I have taken measures to ensure fuller and more exact information being forthcoming for the preparation of this year's report, which I trust will contain observations of greater interest and utility than it has been possible to include in the present report for the reasons above noted.

I have, &c.,

H. E. S. CORDEAUX,
Acting Commissioner.

1000 Wt 23792 11/05 D & S 5 22697 A 2

REPORT ON THE SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE BLUE BOOK OF 1904-5.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) General Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

The estimated revenue for 1904-5 was £34,133; the actual revenue amounted to £35,188 8*s.* 11*d.*, showing an increase over the estimate of £1,055 8*s.* 11*d.*, and a decrease of £4,653 16*s.* 7*d.* as compared with the revenue collected in 1903-4.

2. The following is a comparative statement showing the actual revenue collected in 1903-4 and 1904-5:—

Heads of Revenue.	1903–04.	1904–05.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
1. Customs	30,358 11 11	28,522 12 2	—	1,835 19 9
2. Judicial Fees and Fines ...	1,249 18 6	1,579 1 3	329 2 9	—
3. Licenses, Dues, &c.	798 16 6	596 2 6	—	202 14 0
4. Miscellaneous Revenue ...	178 4 0	2,030 8 3	1,852 4 3	—
5. Postal Receipts	7,234 8 8	2,460 4 9	—	4,774 3 11
6. Unclaimed Deposits ...	22 5 11	—	—	22 5 11
Total	39,842 5 6	35,188 8 11	2,181 7 0	6,835 3 7

3. It will be noticed that the principal decrease is under Postal Receipts. The Post Office was opened in June, 1903, and during the first few months there was a very large demand for stamps by collectors and dealers. Under Customs, the decrease is due to continual depression of trade consequent on the unsettled state of the interior. Large numbers of Somalis were employed in the military operations against the Mullah, and were in receipt of free rations imported by the Field Force free of duty.

4. The increase under Judicial Fees and Fines is due to the growing tendency of the Somalis to submit their cases to the Protectorate Courts in preference to having them decided by their own Elders according to Somali custom.

The large increase under Miscellaneous Revenue is principally accounted for by recoveries on account of exchange effected from the War Office, by whom the military operations were conducted.

Expenditure.

5. The following is a comparative statement of expenditure for 1903-4 and 1904-5:—

Heads of Service.	1903–04.	1904–05.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Administration	5,179 1 7	8,216 14 10	3,037 13 3	—
2. Audit...	157 16 5	84 5 6	—	73 10 11
3. Bombay Agency	—	—	—	—
4. Conservancy	298 12 8	349 14 5	51 1 9	—
5. Customs	1,772 5 10	1,953 0 11	190 15 1	—
6. Educational...	103 9 1	102 16 11	—	0 12 2
7. Police and Prisons ...	4,816 8 1	5,974 8 5	1,158 0 4	—
8. Medical	1,357 14 4	1,854 3 9	496 9 5	—
9. Military	8,981 1 6	21,601 19 2	12,620 17 8	—
10. Miscellaneous	555 4 6	181 2 0	—	374 2 6
11. Native Civil Administration	2,110 5 6	2,258 6 8	148 1 2	—
12. Non-effective Services ...	213 4 3	4,110 1 6	3,896 17 3	—
13. Port and Marine	3,220 15 5	2,180 2 6	—	1,040 12 11
14. Post and Telegraphs ...	1,125 14 0	2,624 6 7	1,498 12 7	—
15. Printing and Stationery ...	375 17 6	397 4 4	21 6 7	—
16. Public Works	1,692 17 9	4,547 0 1	2,854 3 7	—
17. Transport and Passages ...	834 18 9	1,455 10 8	620 11 11	—
18. Treasury	888 13 3	947 7 6	58 14 3	—
19. Repayments to India ...	20,404 15 9	14,633 8 2	—	5,771 7 7
20. Exchange	561 11 9	19 10 5	—	542 1 4
21. Dolbahanta, Political Grant	—	135 9 7	—	135 9 7
Total	54,650 7 11	73,636 13 11	26,788 14 5	7,802 7 5
Deduct Decrease ...	.. ...	... ...	7,802 7 5	—
Nett Increase ...	... ...	... ...	18,986 7 0	—

6. The expenditure for 1904-5 was thus greater than the expenditure for 1903-4 by £18,986 7*s.* 0*d.*, the increase being almost entirely due to tribal defence organization requirements and the upkeep of a temporary battalion of Indian troops.

7. To take the principal items, the increase of over £300 under Administration was necessitated by an additional vote for carrying out tribal defence arrangements. Under Military increased expenditure to the amount of £12,620 17*s.* 0*d.* was incurred in defraying the cost of a temporary garrison of Indian troops and of other military requirements. Acceleration of the mail service between Aden and the Protectorate ports, and cost of upkeep of the field telegraph, accounts for the increased expenditure of £1,498 under Post and Telegraphs, whilst the survey of the Berbera-Argan Railway and the completion of buildings and repairs commenced in 1903-4 is responsible for the increase under Public Works.

The principal economies effected were under the headings Port and Marine and Repayments to India.

8. The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure for the last five years:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1900–01 ...	22,401 11 1	51,959 2 10
1901–02 ...	28,878 3 6	59,253 2 11
1902–03 ...	24,968 6 5	47,457 17 9
1903–04 ...	39,842 5 6	54,650 7 11
1904–05 ...	35,188 8 11	73,686 13 11

(B) Important Changes in Taxation.

Export duty was raised from 3 per cent. to 7 per cent. *ad valorem* in November, 1904.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

The total assets on 31st March, 1905, were £103,193 2*s.* 4*d.*, and the current liabilities were £80,233 17*s.* 11*d.*, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of £22,959 4*s.* 5*d.*

(D) Public Debt.

Nil.

(E.) Currency.

The currency of Somaliland is based upon the British Indian rupee and its sub-divisions. It consists at present of:—

(1) Notes—A few Government of India rupee notes are in circulation amongst the local merchants.

(2) Gold—British sovereigns in circulation, very small quantities, at the rate of Rs. 15 to the sovereign.

(3) Silver—One rupee, 8-anna, 4-anna, and 2-anna pieces.

(4) Copper—Half-anna, quarter-anna, and one pie pieces.

All Government accounts are kept in rupees.

There are no banks in the Protectorate.

(F.) Comparative Statement of the Total Revenue and Expenditure of the Berbera Municipality for the Five Years ended March 31st, 1905.

—	1900–01.	1901–02.	1902–03.	1903–04.	1904–05.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Revenue	6,391	5,653	5,246	5,810	5,957
Expenditure	5,298	5,635	4,063	4,044	4,457

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

1. The value of the total trade of the Protectorate (duty and non-duty) for the year 1904-5 amounted to Rs. 92,95,034, showing a decrease of Rs. 24,58,054 as compared with the previous year and an increase of Rs. 5,47,755 on the figures of 1902-3.

2. The following table compares the imports and exports which comprise the trade at the ports of Zeyla, Berbera and Bulhar, Karam and Heis:—

Value.

——	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Zeyla—			
Imports	15,40,939	16,14,453	11,55,137
Exports	17,61,076	15,52,659	12,07,645
Berbera and Bulhar—			
Imports	28,82,414	46,41,676	36,51,903
Exports	22,72,233	36,17,199	30,77,268
Karam—			
Imports	24,499	41,773	20,404
Exports	21,986	30,467	23,008
Heis—			
Imports	1,46,849	1,71,243	88,758
Exports	97,283	83,618	70,911
Total Imports	45,94,701	64,69,145	49,16,202
Total Exports	41,52,578	52,83,943	43,78,832
Grand Total ...	87,47,279	1,17,53,088	92,95,034

3. Imports and exports of treasure amounted to Rs. 19,52,593 —being Rs. 11,83,195 less than the previous year. The returns for the last three years are shown in the following table:—

Value.

——	1902-3.	1903-4	1904-5
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Zeyla—			
Import and Export	6,07,390	6,33,177	3,15,651
Berbera and Bulhar—			
Import and Export	5,75,032	25,02,611	16,36,942
Karam and Heis—			
Import and Export	—	—	—
Grand Total	11,82,422	31,35,788	19,52,593

4. The duty-paid trade of the Protectorate in imports and exports, compared with the results of the two previous years, is as follows:—

Value.

——	1902–3.	1903–4.	1904–5.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Zeyla—			
Imports	10,61,027	12,71,145	9,75,851
Exports	13,87,130	11,26,342	9,42,239
Berbera and Bulhar—			
Imports	26,65,110	40,99,796	33,83,574
Exports	19,14,505	16,56,468	17,08,655
Karam—			
Imports	24,499	41,773	20,404
Exports	21,986	30,467	23,008
Heis—			
Imports	1,46,849	1,71,243	88,758
Exports	97,283	93,618	70,911
Total Imports	38,97,485	55,83,957	44,68,587
Total Exports	34,20,904	28,96,895	27,44,813
Grand Total	73,18,389	84,80,852	72,13,400

5. Taking the exchange value of the rupee at 1*s.* 4*d.*, the duty-paid trade of the Protectorate for the last three years may be shown in sterling as follows:—

Value.

——	1902–3.	1903–4.	1904–5.
	£	£	£
Zeyla—			
Imports	70,700	84,700	65,100
Exports	92,500	75,100	62,800
Berbera and Bulhar—			
Imports	177,700	273,300	225,600
Exports	127,600	110,400	113,900
Karam—			
Imports	1,600	2,800	1,400
Exports	1,500	2,000	1,500
Heis—			
Imports	9,800	11,400	5,900
Exports	6,500	5,600	4,700
Total Imports	259,800	372,200	298,000
Total Exports	228,100	193,100	182,900
Grand Total	487,900	565,300	480,900

6.—Review of the Trade of Zeyla.

By Mr. E. Power, Acting Sub-Commissioner.

The decrease in the trade and commerce of Zeyla for the past year is entirely due to the railway at Djibouti. As the railway has come to stay, I am afraid that every year will show a still further decrease until a time will arrive when the Zeyla trade with Harrar will practically cease, and Zeyla will be more or less dependent for its existence on the somewhat unimportant local trade together with a small and irregular carrying-trade with Abyssinia.

The trade of Zeyla is entirely in the hands of Greek, Indian, Arab and Jew traders, and chiefly depends on Harrar.

Town.

Zeyla is an old Egyptian town, consisting of white stone houses besides a large number of Somali mat grass huts. Beyond the town stretches an unbroken desert of about 50 miles.

The sea lies on three sides of the town, which during the spring tides is sometimes nearly cut off from the mainland. The wells which supply the town with water are situated at Tokosha, about three miles from the town. The water is brought in daily in skins, and carried by camels and donkeys in the charge of very ancient Somali women.

Harbour (Port of Zeyla).

Zeyla is 15 hours by steamer from Aden. It has a good sheltered anchorage, but only ships of very shallow draught can approach nearer than a mile and a half from the shore. There is a pier of considerable length, off which the small dhows can lie, and there is no difficulty experienced by steamers in loading or discharging cargo.

A steamer belonging to Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw Brothers calls at Zeyla once a week—bringing the mails.

Telegraphs.

There is no telegraphic communication with Zeyla.

Djibouti.

Djibouti is 35 miles from Zeyla and is connected by telegraph with Perim and Abyssinia.

There is a fair local trade between Zeylá and Djibouti, consisting chiefly of goats, sheep, ghee, and charcoal.

Harrar.

Harrar is about 200 miles from Zeyla. The camel post from Zeyla to Harrar, which used to run weekly, has now ceased, letters being sent to Djibouti and taken up by train. The distances between Harrar and Addis Abeba is close on 300 miles, and the two places are connected by telephone.

Ras Makonnen is the Governor of Harrar and district, and British interests are ably looked after by the Vice-Consul at Harrar, Mr. Gerolimato.

Police.

Zeyla is well policed by Soudanese and Somalis with a sprinkling of Arabs and Indians. Life and property are perfectly safe within the limits of the town, and in the interior travellers have nothing to fear from the tribes in British territory, provided a proper escort is taken.

Climate.

It is intensely hot on the coast during the summer months, that is from about May to September.

A large majority of the natives go up country, and the population consequently dwindles down to a couple of thousand or so. There is very little trade, the natives in the interior obtaining their supplies from Harrar. In the winter season the climate is not at all unpleasant and fairly healthy.

Hospital.

There is a hospital and dispensary provided by Government. An English doctor is in charge, assisted by a hospital assistant.

Zeyla Trade and Navigation Returns.

Statement A shows the names of the principal merchants in Zeyla.

Statement B shows the cost of carrying goods by camel from Zeyla to Harrar, together with freight from Aden, and Customs duty.

Statement C shows freight by train and steamer from Aden to Harrar viâ Djibouti.

The trade of Zeyla for the year under report amounted to Rs. 23,62,782, showing a decrease of Rs. 8,04,330 as below:—

Import	...	...	...	Rs. 4,59,316
Export	...	...	...	Rs. 3,45,014

The main cause of this decrease is on account of the Djibouti Railway.

Remarks on Import.

The value of goods imported during the year was	Rs. 11,55,137
Last year the figures were	16,14,453
	Rs. 4,59,316

An increase of Rs. 1,38,219 occurred under different heads of goods as below:—

No.	Article.	Amount.
		Rs.
1	Apparel	59,146
2	Bags and Sacks	8,835
3	Beads and Amber	1,689
4	Brass and Copper Wares	193
5	Building Materials	3,114
6	Drugs and Medicines	11,293
7	Fire arms	100
8	Furniture	920
9	Ammunition	120
10	Kerosine Oil	7,992
11	Rice	14,770
12	Dates	11,382
13	Ghee	1,548
14	Other Provisions	8,679
15	Tinned Provisions	677
16	Skin, Tanned	892
17	Tea	2,463
18	Tobacco...	4,406

No. 1.—This item was included in last year's report under the head of Cotton Piece Goods, Miscellaneous, but this year has been specified separately.

Nos. 2 to 9, and 14, 15, and 17, which in last year's returns were included in Miscellaneous, Other Sorts, are also specified separately.

Kerosine oil shows an increase of Rs. 7,992, on account of a large stock being stored in Zeyla by Menahim Messa.

Rice and dates.—Rice and dates show an increase of Rs. 14,770 and Rs. 11,382 respectively. This increase is mostly due to the fact that French Somalis lived in Zeyla district for a part of the year, there being no rain in their country.

Ghee shows increase of Rs. 1,548. This was imported from Djibouti for shipment to Berbera.

Skin, tanned, and tobacco.—Skin, tanned, and tobacco show increase of Rs. 892 and Rs. 4,406 respectively, due to increased importation by Somali merchants for exporting to Harrar, as goods from Aden during part of the year were not allowed to be landed at Djibouti on account of the plague.

The following articles imported show a decrease of Rs. 5,97,535:—

No.	Articles.	Amount.
		Rs.
1	American grey shirting	1,67,033
2	Cotton piece goods, miscellaneous ...	1,46,192
3	Earthen and glassware	3,726
4	Iron and steel ware	497
5	Miscellaneous other sorts	68,615
6	Jowaree	7,623
7	Flour	360
8	Sugar	14,363
9	Salt	340
10	Silk piece goods, miscellaneous ...	874
11	Soap	7,352
12	Spirit and liquor for Zeyla	45
13	Spirit and liquor for Harrar... ...	16,471
14	Donkeys	22
15	Cows	23,420
16	Sheep and goats	255
17	Skins	1,700
18	Specie in dollars	1,12,951
19	Specie in rupees	25,696
		5,97,535

Nos. 1 to 5 show decrease of Rs. 3,86,063, due to these goods being sent direct from Aden to Harrar viâ Djibouti.

Jowaree shows decrease of Rs. 7,623. This is due to a large stock remaining in the hands of the merchants from the year before.

Flour and sugar.—Flour and sugar show a decrease of Rs. 360 and Rs. 14,363 respectively. Both articles were sent direct to Harrar viâ Djibouti.

Salt.—A smaller quantity was imported for Harrar.

Silk piece goods, miscellaneous, show decrease of Rs. 874.

Soap shows decrease of Rs. 7,352.

Spirit and liquor shows decrease of Rs. 16,471. These goods went viâ Djibouti.

Cows, sheep and goats.—Cows show decrease of Rs. 23,420. Sheep and goats show decrease of Rs. 255. This decrease was

on account of quarantine imposed on dhows coming from Arabia.

Skins show decrease of Rs. 1,700. Less imported on account of quarantine regulations.

Specie.—A decrease of Rs. 1,38,647, due to specie in dollars and rupees being sent direct from Aden to Harrar viâ Djibouti.

Remarks on Exports.

The total value of the export trade from Zeyla during the year under report amounts to Rs. 12,07,645 against that of last year of Rs. 15,52,659, showing a decrease of Rs. 3,45,014.

A decrease of Rs. 4,46,592 is noticed under different heads as below:—

No.	Articles.	Amount.
		Rs.
1	Beeswax	60,756
2	Charcoal	645
3	Coffee, Harrari	34,480
4	Coffee, Habashi	6,300
5	Dates	924
6	Fish fins and lukhum...	806
7	Ghee	8,244
8	Gum arabic	4,054
9	Ostrich feathers	715
10	Rice	480
11	Skins	1,37,936
12	Sugar	117
13	Waras	914
14	Camels	40
15	Horses	400
16	Gold ingots	10,902
17	Specie in dollars	9,163
18	Specie in rupees	1,69,716
	Total ...	4,46,592

Beeswax.—A decrease of Rs. 60,756—exporters having made use of the railway.

Charcoal shows decrease of Rs. 645. Less demand in Aden and Berbera for this article.

Coffee, Harrari and Habashi.—A decrease of Rs. 40,780, due to railway.

Fish fins and lukhum.—A decrease of Rs. 608, due to rates being low in Aden market, consequently less exported.

Ghee shows decrease of Rs. 8,244. Less exported to Djibouti, as for some time there was no communication between Zeyla

and Djibouti by sea, on account of quarantine regulations in force at Djibouti.

Gum arabic.—A decrease of Rs. 4,054. Less production on account of there being very little rain in the interior.

Ostrich feathers show a decrease of Rs. 715, due to the feathers being taken, together with skins of wild animals shot by Midgans, direct to Djibouti.

Skins show a decrease of Rs. 1,37,936, due to the skins being taken to Djibouti direct from Harrar.

Waras.—A decrease of Rs. 914; this article was taken by the Harrar merchants proceeding from Djibouti to Mokha.

Horses.—A decrease of Rs. 400. No price at Aden for horses, consequently they were not exported.

Gold ingots and specie show a decrease of Rs. 1,89,781, due to the railway.

The following export articles show an increase of Rs. 1,01,578 under different heads of goods as below:—

No.	Articles.	Amount.
		Rs.
1	Cotton piece goods, miscellaneous ...	2,957
2	Dates	1,620
3	Grain	1,028
4	Hides	18,058
5	Ivory	7
6	Miscellaneous	1,734
7	Pearls	3,203
8	Salt	6,301
9	Shells, Mother-of-pearl	15,011
10	Tallow	156
11	Tobacco	48
12	Bullocks	4,260
13	Mules	120
14	Sheep and goats	17,205
15	Jabod	28,870
	Total ...	1,01,578

Cotton and piece goods.—Increase of Rs. 3,957, due to Menahim Messa returning these goods to Aden unsold.

Dates.—Increase of Rs. 1,620. A greater demand at Djibouti for these goods.

Grain shows an increase of Rs. 1,028, due to a greater amount having been purchased by the pearl fishermen.

Hides.—An increase of Rs. 18,058, due to a greater demand from Aden.

Miscellaneous.—This head includes spices, ironware, ropes, diver's glass, coffee husks, &c., and shows an increase of Rs. 1,734, which is chiefly due to a greater amount having been purchased by the pearl fishermen.

Pearls.—An increase of Rs. 3,203, due to the high price offered for pearls by the Zeyla merchants.

Salt shows an increase of Rs. 6,301, which was sent to Djibouti for entrainment to Harrar.

Shells, Mother-of-pearl.—An increase of Rs. 15,011, due to the Zeyla merchants offering a higher price for this article than could be obtained at Djibouti.

Bullocks.—An increase of Rs. 4,260.

Sheep and goats.—An increase of Rs. 17,205. The increase on the bullocks and sheep and goats is due to the large demand for live stock from Aden and Perim.

Jabod.—An increase of Rs. 28,870. This increase is due on account of one of Zeyla merchants having shipped jabod in large quantities from Zeyla, this article being free from duty.

EDMUND POWER,
Acting Sub-Commissioner,
Zeyla.

Zeyla,
17th May, 1905.

A.

List of Principal Merchants in Zeyla.

Name.	Race.
Abdullabhoy and Joomabhoy Lalljee ...	Indian.
Max Klein	German.
Menahim Messa	Jew.
Sayed Abdullah Albar	Arab.
Livierato and Brothers	Greek.

B.

Statement showing the Detail Cost of Carriage of Goods from and to Harrar via Zeyla by Camel.

Description.	Per	From Harrar to Gildessa by Road.	From Gildessa to Zeyla by Road.	Customs Duty.	From Zeyla to Aden by Sea.	Total.
	lbs.	*Rs. a.*	*Rs. a.*	*Rs. a.*	*Rs. a.*	*Rs. a.*
Abyssinian coffee	560	5 0	10 0	1 7	2 0	18 7
Harrari coffee ...	560	5 0	10 0	1 13	2 0	18 13
	scores.					
Skin	32	5 0	10 0	6 7	3 0	24 7
	lbs.					
Ivory	560	5 0	10 0	33 10	8 0	56 10
Grain, rice, &c. ...	560	5 0	10 0	1 8	0 12	17 4
	bales.					
Aboudiddid (A.P. goods).	3	5 0	10 0	7 8	3 0	25 8
	lbs.					
Petroleum ...	560	5 0	10 0	1 10	2 0	18 10
Soap	560	5 0	10 0	4 12	1 8	21 4

C.

STATEMENT showing in DETAIL the COST of SENDING GOODS from ADEN to HARRAR, via DJIBOUTI by RAILWAY.

Description.	Per	From Aden to Djibouti by Sea.			From Djibouti to Diri Duwa by Railway.			From Diri Duwa to Harrar by road.			Total.		
		R.	*a.*	*p.*	*R.*	*a.*	*p.*	*R.*	*a.*	*p.*	*R.*	*a.*	*p.*
Abyssinian Coffee ...	One Camel load, *i.e.* 560 lbs.	2	9	0	10	5	0	5	14	0	18	12	0
Harrari Coffee ...		2	9	0	14	7	0	5	14	0	22	14	0
Skin		2	9	0	17	2	0	5	14	0	25	9	0
Ivory		2	9	0	42	2	0	5	14	0	50	9	0
Grain, rice, dates, maize.		2	9	0	6	5	0	5	14	0	14	12	0
Aboudjedid (C.P.G. of 9 pieces).		2	9	0	13	11	0	5	14	0	22	2	0
Soap		2	9	0	13	3	0	5	14	0	21	10	0
Kerosine oil		2	9	0	13	3	0	5	14	0	21	10	0
Petroleum		2	9	0	13	3	0	5	14	0	21	10	0
Gum incense, &c. ...		2	9	0	20	13	6	5	14	0	29	4	6
Iron ware and plank woods.		2	9	0	10	9	0	5	14	0	19	0	0
Flour		2	9	0	18	9	0	5	14	0	27	0	0
Ghee		2	9	0	6	4	0	5	14	0	14	11	0
Waras			—			—			—			—	
Gum Arabic and myrrh.		2	9	0	10	9	0	5	14	0	19	0	0
Rifles and cartridges		2	9	0	31	11	0	5	14	0	40	12	0
Grass and firewood ...		2	9	0	6	5	0	5	14	0	14	12	0
E. Gunny bags ...		2	9	0	2	10	0	5	14	0	11	1	0
Chunam and cement—													
For quantity of 5 tons and under.		2	9	0	6	4	0	5	14	0	14	11	0
Quantity exceeding 5 tons.		2	9	0	5	14	0	5	14	0	14	5	0
Sugar		2	9	0	21	1	0	5	14	0	29	8	0

7.—Review of the Trade of Berbera, Bulhar, Karam, and Heis.

By Mr. H. M. O'Byrne, Chief of Customs.

Berbera, Bulhar, Karam, and Heis.

The British Protectorate ports to the east, within the recently disturbed area, though affected by different circumstances, some transient and some unalterable, indicate a greater tendency to sink below than to rise above their former prosperity. Sustained by the military expenditure incidental to the presence and gradual withdrawal of a large expeditionary force, subsequently relieved by an Indian regiment, which now represents the only extraneous population, the trade slowly declined in proportion to the subsidence of the means which, hitherto, had upheld it. From May to November the effect became more and more apparent, and meanwhile, recognising the unavoidable reversion to the former state, the native merchants curtailed or countermanded their consignments, and the immigrant traders stopped business and gradually left the country. The normal condition, however, was not attained till December, when cereals from Calcutta could be controlled within the limited local demand and the stores and live stock, &c., purchased at the Government auction, had ceased to supplement the exports. Though the caravan routes were secure from plundering bands, yet the internal disorders during five consecutive years have left their impression on the popular mind and the commerce. Many nomads were restrained from visiting the ports by the prudent consideration lest hereafter the Mullah should revenge himself on them for transgressing an interdict which he promulgated when he had the power to enforce it. Deflected to new and safer localities, caravans which formerly converged on Berbera continued along the new path to the Mijjertein country, and during the year were joined by others proceeding to Bosaso (Bandar Kassim), which has become the rendezvous for the Habr Gerhajis and Warsangli Somalis who, impelled by poverty, or actuated by racial independence or tribal jealousy, utilize this foreign port in preference to the British customs port at Heis, where a few local Somalis monopolise the trade. The Game Regulations, too, still coerced a few dealers in ostrich eggs, skins, &c., and caravans carrying sporting trophies to seek the open and unrestricted markets within the French and Italian Protectorates, from whence Aden can be supplied through foreign agency with goods which in British territory are contraband articles. Immunity from taxation, a settled population, the presence of wholesale dealers and open competition at its coast towns are attractions which the Mijjertein country offers against contiguous British

will be long before the traders, forsaking the new ties first formed by compulsion and afterwards strengthened by frequent intercourse and mutual interest, turn aside and resume the former route to the British Protectorate and its forgotten associations. A conservative people compelled to a certain conduct soon cling to it with the same tenacity which had prevented its voluntary adoption, and in the compass of a small trade the slightest deviation has a perceptible effect. Disease and murrain, too, played a part with other economic factors in shaping the commerce, and the future must remedy the combined result. In August a severe epidemic of small-pox appeared, and with its toll of death exercised its adverse influence on business affairs, but the evil in its comparative bearing on the trade was somewhat mitigated when plague prevailed in Aden and the Somalis and others fled from there and augmented the coast population. Traders from the interior refrained from their annual visit to the more infected port and locally sold their merchandise, while a number of dhows from the Persian Gulf, freighted with dates for Aden, were compelled to cross over and be content with the meagre profit obtainable at Berbera, from whence previous reports of a falling market had deterred others who could command a wider choice. The flocks in the Gadabursi and Ayyal Yunis region suffered from the effects of a partial drought, and thousands succumbed from "al" pleurisy, or in anticipation were slaughtered for their skins. Afterwards "sumbab," or lung disease, afflicted the goats, and caused great mortality. As the nomads at favourable breeding seasons subsist mainly on the milk of their flocks and restrict the slaughter, the extensive and rich pastures, which sprang up in the latter part of the year after heavy rain, counter-balanced in some measure these calamities, and prepared the means whereby Nature will replenish the depreciation. Some months before the outbreak of cattle disease a prohibition against the export and slaughter of female sheep and goats had been issued in order to replace by breeding the diminution caused by the wastage during two successive campaigns, but the improvident or necessitous people either killed the animals outside the towns and exported their skins, or drove them to Djibouti and other foreign localities, where they realized their market value. When the ewe costing about Rs. 5 could not be sold in the British ports except at a price equivalent to the skin alone, the owner or vender, indifferent to the future and concerned with the exigent present, was constrained to adopt a course which secured him both products or their combined value. In September the export duty was raised from 3 to 7 per cent., and the skin and hide trade mainly affected by the imposition was directly influenced to the extent that caravans, requisitioned by wholesale dealers within accessible distance of Zeyla, were instructed to proceed to that port, where the duty is 1 per cent. The poverty wrought

through the unusual loss of live stock, together with the comparative cheapness of necessaries at Zeyla, the higher rate procurable there for skins, and the absence of land customs, were also inducements which impelled individual traders to change their usual destination from Bulhar and frequent the more distant port. In a nomadic country, where the taxation falls upon a populace whose perishable wealth, often retained for social importance, ordinarily fluctuates, by addition or loss, between an excess and a certain standard, and the poorest can enrich themselves by gathering or manufacturing such natural substances as gum and fibre, and both classes regulate their wares in proportion to their wants, an enhanced export duty, within a reasonable limit, does not materially affect the trade, but the principle depends on normal conditions and inability to evade the imposition. Subject to these influences, the collective value of the sea-borne trade, excluding specie, at the four ports dropped from Rs. 60,83,365 in 1903-4 to Rs. 52,95,310 in 1904-5, or about 13 per cent. Imports and exports at Berbera and Bulhar together amounted to Rs. 50,92,229, against Rs. 57,56,264, and at Karam and at Heis to Rs. 43,412 and Rs. 1,59,669, contrasted with last year's Rs. 72,240 and Rs. 25,486. Separating the transactions at the two premier ports, the comparison shows that, whereas in 1903-4 imports at Berbera and Bulhar were valued at Rs. 28,96,885 and Rs. 12,02,911, this year they had fallen to Rs. 27,20,053 and Rs. 6,63,521, and the exports during the same comparative period were Rs. 9,44,378 and Rs. 7,12,090, against Rs. 10,04,167 and Rs. 7,04,488. From these statistics it is apparent that the merchandise, &c., brought into the country declined 6 per cent at Berbera, 45 per cent. at Bulhar, 51 per cent. at Karam, and 48 per cent. at Heis, and, though the export percentage at Berbera was 6 greater, shipments from the other three ports decreased 1 per cent., 24 per cent., and 15 per cent. respectively. The zariba, or land customs registers at Berbera and Bulhar—the only two ports in the Protectorate where such dues are levied—record that merchandise and live stock to the combined value of Rs. 12,76,593 and Rs. 12,23,940 passed into these towns, but the former valuation includes the sum of Rs. 46,175—the auction price of transport animals sold to the natives. Last year the caravan trade at each port was computed to have been Rs. 18,48,232 and Rs. 19,56,417. The difference, 34 per cent., accentuates the absolute dependence of the sea-borne on the distant land trade, because the whole quantity, directly or indirectly, is exchanged for imports or destined for immediate or ultimate export. The close equality between the value of the inward and outward trade at Heis and Karam shows that their commerce has not passed the barter stage, and the annual variations at the latter port result from the agencies which operate on Berbera, the entrepôt. A concession for the removal of guano from Rebehi Island, 15 miles off Meith, granted to a

company formed for the purpose, and an experimental shipment of 138 tons of animal bones by a Bombay firm through a local agent, were the only novel transactions which promoted the trade. Little of the wealth brought into the country through the campaign has been retained or profitably applied, because those whose characteristics enabled them to utilize the occasion were immigrants or commercial residents whose sojourn is limited to the shortest period it takes to accumulate a competence, and experience proves that the capital acquired from highly remunerated labour conduces to a belief in its permanency, and temporary possession produces unusual indolence and luxury. The Mijjertein, Dankali, Arab, and other foreigners, whose dhows were profitably employed in the harbour, the petty traders from Aden and other neighbouring ports, the thrifty Bedouin, Adan Madhoba, Abyssinian, and Indian employees and labourers, and the astute local merchants amassed their savings and departed with, or remitted, their money to their homes, whereas the inhabitants, especially the townsmen, who were the greatest participants, squandered their share on ostentation or in disastrous speculations. The attraction and importance of publicly buying transport animals at the military auctions for a normal price was not resisted by the consideration that the beasts were worn out by the hardships of a severe campaign and that foreign breeds require special treatment. Most camels thus obtained died from exhaustion, and the mortality amongst the enfeebled Indian horses was hastened by the fact that they were turned out to graze like the hardy Somali ponies, or insufficiently fed by their owners, who could not afford proper fodder. The inexperienced endeavoured to emulate those who during the expedition had advantageously initiated certain enterprises, but forgot that a past opportunity had governed their success. Consequently when these men transported foodstuffs to the decreasing settlements around the military ports, or shipped horses or mules to Aden, they found that others had anticipated them, and the supply was greater than the demand. Convinced that the Government wished to buy fresh stock, others bought transport animals at Harrar, but realised their mistake when the undertaking proved a financial failure. In these and other similar extravagances the majority spent their substance, but the exceptions seized the fleeting opportunity to exact a permanent benefit. Amongst the number were the prudent business men who invested their gains in house property or improvements, and therefore within three years, besides a number of reed or mat huts, 29 coral stone buildings have been erected at Berbera and 16 at Bulhar. The motive for this form of investment originates from the conviction, founded on the observation of several topographic surveys, that the Government has decided to construct a railway from Berbera to Harrar, and that its commencement will raise the value of real property, maintain or increase the high rents obtained during the expedition, and result in abrogating the

present rule, whereby applicants are granted free building sites. Failing this suppositious medium, the whole population, whether Indian, Arab, or Somali, relied on the certainty of another campaign to derive a pecuniary benefit, but the peace made with the Mullah in March should in a slower and more legitimate manner realize their expectations, if—freed from every artificial restraint—the pent-up sources and diverted channels of trade reopen and resume their former course, and commerce once again flows towards its former outlets—the British ports.

IMPORTS.

Piece Goods.

Of the different European white long-cloths, all manufactured in England, the Army and Navy, Large Elephant, and the Violin and Anchor marks, though the most expensive, are in the greatest demand for tobes, because the durability of the material and, when new, its rustling sheen and whiteness are qualities which suit the popular need and fancy. Both fabrics are purchased by nomads and townsmen, but the latter costing Rs. 9 a piece of 40 yards, or a rupee less than the other, has the greatest sale and more extended clientèle. The poor have to content themselves with the inferior "garland," "Queen" and similar marks, priced at Rs. 4½ to Rs. 5 per piece, and the local designation, "Abu Nura" impregnated with lime, denotes their flimsy grade. The other patterns are Dadabhoy's Abu Harb, Mal Fakhar, Abu Hakar, superior and inferior quality, Chiney's and Jafferbhoy's Al Fakhar and Abu Sils, which are sold at 8, 9, 8, 8½, 7¼, and 7½ rupees, respectively, per piece. For actual wear and tear, the American grey sheeting is considered preferable, but within the last three years the price has risen 40 per cent. Witton fine sheeting, a recent importation, despite the price, Rs. 146 a bale, is extensively bought by the richer Ogaden, and Habr Toljaala tribesmen and its special recommendation is a softer surface compared with equally durable but rougher textiles. The Double Lion, White Star, and Cat D, about the same price, are also new varieties which successfully compete against the better known cloths:—

Name of Cloth.	Price sold at.	Quantity.
	Rs.	
Abu Harb (Dankali Warrior)	146 to 150	Per Bale of 750 yards.
Abu Daar (Winged Wheel)	146 to 150	,,
Abu Bint (Girl)	117	,,
Abu Howt (Fish)	144	,,
Abu Asad (Lion)	144	,,
Abu Kekb (Dog)	144	,,
Abu Fanus (Pegasus)	146 to 150	,,
Abu Jamal (Camel)	146 to 150	,,
Abu Nafar (Bugle)	115	,,

Like Bombay grey sheeting, which has been forced out of the Protectorate markets by more adaptable manufacturers, the hand-woven tobes of Sher are being replaced by E.W. longcloth and the Arabian "mandels," or "waistbands," by their Cutch, Indian, and English imitations, of which the silky "Dewli" and the glazed "Ishkandrani" are the most successful productions. Bombay chintz, a copy of the Zabeidi mandil, provides those who cannot afford the real material with an efficient substitute, but the sombre and flimsy black and red cotton makrama, or wrapper, from the Surat mills, sold at Rs. 7½ a score, is giving way to the "Hindu" quality from England which—though dearer, costing Rs. 8 to Rs. 20 a score—is a thicker raiment with greater length and broader width, and the different patterns afford the female wearers a choice between many tastefully coloured designs. The brilliant kangas, called tobe zanizibari, and retailed at Rs. 80 a score, also cater to the female fancy, and the German manufacturers, with that characteristic attention to trivial matters which promotes their business, have provided a simple device, whereby a man can use a part of the same cloth without the reproach that he wears female apparel. To make a loin garment it is only necessary to cut through one of the variegated coloured lines which divide the ten-yard length into five equal portions. Turkey red cloth is now coming into fashion as tobes for women, and for this particular use No. 15 Gaikwar mark, Duxbury and Co., is more popular, because it is cheaper and has a broader width than the stronger but narrower material made by Graham, Glasgow. For bordering light underwear, &c., Dadabhoy's Al Fakhar serves its purpose. Netting for the native coiffure, manufactured in England and afterwards dyed an indigo colour at Bombay, from whence it is re-exported, and tobe "Burtoji" are the only other important clothes supplied to the Protectorate markets, and the remaining cotton, silk and woollen fabrics include the usual heterogeneous collection which passes into every port in proportion to its importance and social condition.

Cereals.

To a quaint circumstance is attributed the prejudice against the inexpensive Burma rice which, on its first importation in 1902, was expected to supersede the dearer "Rari," and become the staple food. Most women will not use it, because the raw grain require more water than the quantity they have been accustomed to add when cooking other varieties, and the experience was learnt at the first trial when a deficiency parched the grain. While small consignments of Rangooni shipped to the eastern ports has been supplemented by the still cheaper "Musa Kani" and "Rawalpuri" and the comparatively superior "Kazla," the usual "Rari" (first and second sort) continues to satisfy the popular demand. Though the Karachee millet

is considered fit only for fodder, the indigent accustomed to its consumption, eat Bombay Raisi and Yemani jowari as an economical substitute for rice, and the other kinds of cereals in general use comprise wheat, gram, barley, bajri, &c., but mainly dal.

Flour.

Excepting a little Trieste flour for making European bread, the Indian meal of the Household and Elephant marks, sold at Rs. 14 per $1\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. bag, control the market.

Dates.

From a hundred different species obtainable at the plantations, only the Samran and a few baskets of the Haw-ali date are acceptable in the Protectorate, and this year the former declined from an average of Rs. 6 to 9 to Rs. 5 to 7 a kosorah. Seera, or date juice, collected from the exuding baskets into the pits, sunk beneath the floor of the store houses, is packed into petroleum tins, and sold at Rs. 2 a tin; mixed with tobacco it forms the "gurako" smoked in the hookah, and the treacle is also used for making native sweets. Cattle are fattened on date stones, and milch animals fed on such a diet are said to produce better and more copious milk.

Sugar.

The Mauritius manufacture, which held an important share amongst other commodities brought into the country, has ceased to be important, and this year an attempt to introduce Russian sugar proved a failure, because the small grains under slight pressure coagulate into hard lumps, and this property constitutes the defect. Through its general excellence the monopoly rests with the Austrian product, both the fine and the coarse, especially as the cost is equivalent to the average price for all sorts—Rs. $2\frac{1}{2}$ a maund (28 lbs.). On the other hand, candy from Bownuggar and Egypt compete against the Trieste sweetmeat. A little cube Austrian sugar is kept on sale for a "Maulud," or death or marriage solemnity, where a few pieces are distributed to the guests, but candy does equally well if the household has not got a sufficiency. India's contribution is confined to jogri, for which there is very little demand.

Salt.

For domestic purposes the clean mocha, Rs. $1\frac{1}{2}$ per two cwt. bag, is preferred to all other varieties, including the crude Zeyla manufacture, which are mainly used for preserving skins and shark fins and flesh.

Tobacco.

Grown on soil manured by guano, the mokalla leaf, called hamomi, retailed at Rs. 8 per 28 lbs., has a great reputation amongst natives for its flavour, yet at one-eighth to one-half the price less Surat supplies an appreciable amount. Rotterdam and Constantinople provide the cheapest packet tobacco and cigarettes, but Wills's Flag and Scissors brand, once extensively used, does not appear as an indispensable article amongst a petty trader's stock.

Kerosine Oil.

The Russian Ram, Anchor, and White Camelia brands (125°) are generally used, because the American oil is procurable at Rs. 4½ to Rs. 5, or 4 to 6 annas dearer than the Batoum petroleum.

Preserved Provisions, Tea, Wines, Spirits, Amber Beads, &c., &c.

These luxuries, dependent for consumption or use on the prosperity of the trade, profits, and wages, the class and number of immigrants and their peculiar wants, do not require a separate reference, nor does the small amount warrant this attention.

Miscellaneous.

Tofi.

Amongst many small commodities the leaves or "an" of the durr palm, called "tofi" by the Arabs, is the most important, because it is the material from which matting is made, and the importation, which could be much greater, promoted a local industry. If the supply from Onkor, Ragoda, and Shallao—the principal sources—is insufficient, there are eager purchasers for the quantity shipped from Assab—the only foreign port which supplies the demand. Dyed black by the "daar," or yellow aloe found in the country and red by "fohhah," the madder root (manjit rubea) procured from India, the strips are also used to plait the coloured platters, "masrafat" and "sifal" baskets, bowls, &c., and the two ornamental mats—the large "darmo" and the small "salik."

Exports.

Live Stock (Sheep and Goats).

The price at the ports and their neighbourhood is highest during or before the various Mahommedan festivals, but the

Aden demand always influences the market. The average, however, is Rs. 7 to Rs. 8 prime, Rs. 3½ to Rs. 4 medium, and Rs. 2 to Rs. 2½ small. The greatest number are brought from the Habr Awal, Habr Gerhajis, Habr Toljaala, and Ogaden country, and large transactions are made through brokers who charge the vendor 1 to 2 annas commission, but the Ogaden Abban's fee from his tribesmen is 4 annas. With the bone a well conditioned sheep or goat carcass stripped of the skin weighs 30 to 35 lbs. In 1903 about 500 "black heads," ewes and rams, were shipped to South Africa to cross with the strain descended from the original Merino, and if the experiment proves successful the promoter will extend the Somaliland stock trade by adding another market besides Aden.

Cattle.

A bull is sold for 25, 13 to 14 and 7 rupees, according to its size, and the proportionate amount of beef is 280-300 lbs., 250-280 lbs., and 100 lbs., but 250 lbs. is the average weight. Cows fetch Rs. 30 and heifers 17 to 18. The small Arabian species, costing Rs. 40 to Rs. 80, is imported as a superior milch animal, but soon dies if turned out to graze like the indigenous cattle. The cross-breed produces more milk than the foreign dam.

Camels.

A serviceable Somali camel for transport varies in price from Rs. 25 to Rs. 40, but the season from September to April, when the nomads frequent the towns, is the most suitable time to make a reasonable bargain. For riding the Arabian animal is imported, and at Aden Rs. 200 should purchase the best animal, although Rs. 75 would be the minimum and Rs. 250 the maximum sum.

Horses.

Till recent years Aden was the only market to which horses were shipped, mainly to replace worn out hacks, but latterly there has been a demand by the wealthier settlers in East Africa for Somali broodmares. The Dolbahanta, Habr Gerhajis, Warsangli, Ogaden and Habr Awal regions, especially the Dolbahanta, are the principal sources, and Heis and Meith and Las Khorai the important exporting ports. A Dolbahanta dealer who knows the points of a horse will charge more than a Habr Awal tribesman for the same animal, but Rs. 60-75 is the ordinary, and Rs. 100-150 a good price.

Donkeys.

Ten rupees is an adequate price, but, though strong and hardy, yet there is no demand for the animal outside the country.

Mules.

The small Abyssinian beast is purchased at Harrar for:— transport mule about Rs. 30; riding mule, inferior, about Rs. 30; medium about Rs. 40 to 50; superior, about Rs. 70 to Rs. 80.

MERCHANDISE.

Charcoal.

This small industry is confined to the Isa Musa who make the best quality from the "galol" and "korat" wood. The fuel, sold at 6 annas per 28 lbs., is also used in the local coffee shops:—

Coffee and Waras.

Transported in small quantities from Abyssinia the market prices are:—

Waras, Rs. 2 a pound.

Coffee—

Harrari (from Harrar), Rs. 7 per maund of 28 lbs.

Habashi (from Abyssinia), Rs. 6 per maund of 28 lbs.

Gums and Resins.

Myrrh and gum arabic are brought by the Habr Awal, Habr Gehajis, Habr Toljaala, Dolbahanta Ogaden, and Warsangli tribesmen, and frankincense is gathered in the eastern ranges known as "Makar." The current rates are:—

Gum myrrh (Mur or Malmal), Rs. 12 to Rs. 14 a maund (28 lbs.).

Gum arabic (Samak), Rs. 3 a maund (28 lbs.).

Gum, coarse (Habalkhadi), Rs. 2 a maund (28 lbs.).

Frankincense (Loban Dacar) Rs. 2 to Rs. 2½ a maund (28 lbs.).

The Ogaden and Dolbahanta regions are considered the most prolific, and gum arabic from the "adad" tree the superior, and from the "farader" the inferior resin. "Mohur" frankincense is better than the Maithi product.

The aloe grows in elevated and moist localities throughout Somaliland, but the principal accessible places, where the plant is obtainable in the greatest abundance, are:—

Isa Country—Biyo Gurgra.

Gadabursi—Dih Gudban, Harirud, Hurwa.

Ogaden—Burdelaie, Hariddigit.

Habr Gerhajis—Hidid, Garab, Gurat.

Habr Awal—Heinweina, Kul Kabubag Hid, Birka Haigar, Ail Haddi, Gurgeisa, Dalaho, Mafaha Danan, Karin, Farass, Biyo Dadair, Darima, Deh Marodleh, Agabar, Dirka Daiba, Gal Sahan, Oodan, Hir Godir, Kal Korai, Luba.

Habr Toljaala—Morriah, Elan Badaleh, Enkarra.

Dolbahanta—Badwein.

Habr Yunis—Mandeira, Siggayg.

Warsangli—Abain, Durlah, Horah Antad, Kal Madoo, Haloal, Gaido Ad, Lakala, Hanga, Kal, Magar, Karam, Higna Abda, Maag, Madder, Manam, Ayo, Solloleh, Daibain Eloh, Karraftin.

Having stipulated to supply a certain quantity in return for their daily sustenance and necessary clothing, the women, accompanied by their children, proceed to the locality and select the smaller and softer stalks in preference to the larger and thicker, which are more difficult to manipulate with their primitive instruments—two flat sticks. Held underfoot in position by one piece of wood the surface of the leaf, having previously been crushed between two stones, is shredded by scraping with the other till the fibre is exposed, when it is removed by picking out the strands. This is the most tedious of the three different methods to obtain the commodity, but, though the defect is too short a strand, the toil produces a commensurate result, the fibre being a strong white quality called "maida," exclusively used for plaiting into the finest rope. Four women's united daily labour should accumulate 28 lbs. of the raw material, which is vended in the towns at Rs. 2½ to Rs. 3 per 28 lbs., and the manufactured is sold at 2 annas per lb. A coarser and darker grade is obtained by bruising a quantity of aloe or "hig" and burying the heap in a pit, where the leaves are left to rot for about six days. After removal and washing, the women easily scale the macerated stalks and remove the contents. The third, and crudest, process consists in shredding the bark and cutting the stem into strips and drying them in the sun, after which operation the coarse strands from the severed pieces suffice for sewing gunny bags and mats.

Skins and Hides.

Notwithstanding that prices during the year approximated to or were above the maximum, yet the following may be considered the standard rates:—

Flint Dried.

Hides (jild el Bakar).	Sheep skins (Kabsh).	Goat skins (Teus).
1st quality 13 lbs. } Rs. 9 per 28 lbs. weight. 2nd „ 9 „ } 3rd „ 7 „ }	Wafi, Re. 1 4 ans. 1½ lbs. Bad Wafi, 1¼ lbs. Re. 1 to 15 ans. or Wastani, 1 lb. 10 ans.	Wafi, 1 lb., Re. 1 4 ans. Bad Wafi, ¾ lb. Re. 1 15 ans. or Wastani, ⅜ lb. 10 ans.
Inferior, 6 „ Rs. 6 per 28 lbs.	Kachra, ¾ lb. 2 to 8 ans., including lamb.	Kachra, ⅜ lb. 2 to 8 ans., including kid.

Butcher.

Hides.	Sheep and Goat Skins.
Oxen are not, or very seldom, slaughtered	Cost *Re.* 1 4*a.* to *Re.* 1 6*a.* according to the weight and condition.

(The ordinary weights are given, yet the best skins vary from about 1 lb. to a little over 2 lbs., and prime lamb-skins weigh 10 ozs.)

Ivory.

The Game Regulations have suppressed the trade in this commodity.

Ghee and Tallow.

The clarified butter is sold for Rs. 12 per 28 lbs. if produced from cow's milk, and Rs. 10 if made from sheep or goat milk. Half as cheap as ghee, tallow, mixed with an equal proportion of lime, and sometimes a little resin, forms the native "compo" for native craft. Applied when warm, the preparation for its purpose is as effective as the more scientific European plastering.

Mother-of-Pearl Shells.

The pearl fishing fleet from the Arabian Coast sails between the Gulf of Tajura and Alula within the Italian Protectorate

and, stopping at favourable localities on the route, gathers the shells which the divers bring to the surface. During the autumn (the " Kharif,") owing to the stormy weather along the eastern coast, vessels do not venture beyond Zeyla. The Mijjertein frequent the sea around Socotra, which is considered the most valuable ground, and apparently claim a prescriptive monopoly over that region. If fortune does not give the jewel, which popular belief attributes to a rain drop which has entered the shell, the size being in proportion to the deposit, the oyster itself provides food for the African crew, and the shells remain a valuable acquisition which have a marketable price of Rs. 32 to Rs. 40 per cwt. These vessels, victualled by traders at Zeyla and Berbera who have agreed to purchase the shells at a stipulated rate for a half share in the pearls, periodically return to these ports to settle the contract and take fresh rations. That many precious jewels are found is an acknowledged fact, and though the value exported from Zeyla is shown as Rs. 6,853, yet this estimate is infinitely below the actual, because the divers often appropriate a particularly fine specimen, and all connected with the business unite to conceal their transactions. Bil-bil, or miniature mother of pearl shells, are found in the harbour and collected for the seed pearls which they may contain, but beyond this they have no commercial value.

Ostrich Feathers.

The Somaliland ostrich is not remarkable for the length of its feathers, 18 inches being considered a good size, and the white and the grey plumes are more easily obtainable than the comparatively rare and inferior black. The local prices are:—

Wing feathers.			Tail feathers.
White.	Grey.*	Black.*	
1st quality Re. 1 to 2 each, or wholesale 50 Rs. per lb.	Rs. 15 per lb. ...	Rs. 7 per lb. ...	White and grey sold by weight according to the prices of wing feathers.
2nd quality Re. 1 8 ans.each,or wholesale Rs. 30 per lb.	Rs. 10 per lb ...	Rs. 6 per lb. ...	
3rd quality 8 annas to Re. 1 each, or wholesale Rs. 20 per lb.	Rs. 8 per lb. ...	—	

* The grey and black are sold only by weight to wholesale dealers.

At every Midgan settlement some birds will be observed which have been captured when young, but the species is not propagated but reared simply for its plumage. With their legs hobbled, they are daily driven out to graze on the herbage and shrubs, and to pick whatever wild berries there may be, and in the evening are confined in a brushwood pen, and thus protected against wild beasts. The natural food is supplemented by jowari or millet, but the poor huntsmen cannot afford a regular or liberal allowance. Every six months, the ostriches, which cost about Rs. 35, are plucked, and a debilitated bird's strength sustained after the painful operation by feeding it with chopped mutton and fat, and rubbing ghee or clarified butter as an emollient over the lacerated follicles. From the female 1½ lbs. of grey and from the male 8 to 10 ozs. of white and about 1½ pounds of black are obtained, but to procure the plumes from the wild birds, which are most difficult to approach within bow shot, the Midgans extract the pips from the "galfon giri," a species of wild cucumber, to which the birds are particularly partial, and substituting a mixture of gum and "keri," the poison with which the hunters tip their arrows, strew the vegetable near the birds' haunts and await their approach. After eating the bait, the ostriches begin to stagger and become stupified, when the Midgans rush up and cut their throats.

Miscellaneous.

Amongst a quantity of re-exported necessaries and luxuries taken by passengers and foreign traders are such articles as date juice, the ijiib or pistachio nut from the Ogaden country, locally-made shields of rhinoceros and oryx hide, spears wrought from scrap iron, daggers and other curios, shark liver oil, dry aloe stalks, salted shark fins and flesh, and woods from Heis and Meith, of which the wide-forked "shalman" and the narrow-forked and immature "kerwar," used as ribs in constructing country craft, the "raw-akib," from which crude native cots and chairs are formed, and the "kawari," "rawam," "sarah," "fassasi" and "dusuk," utilized for house building, are the most important. If the sea-faring Somali tribes were not restrained by conservatism and a dislike to a toilsome and unpleasant occupation, the shark fishery, which produces several valuable commodities, would become a lucrative local industry. Ten to fifteen fishing dhows from the Arabian Coast, mainly from Sur, visit the ports during the trading season and carry on their operations 10 miles to the south and usually 60 miles to the north-east of Berbera. Within these waters it is estimated that annually 1,000 sharks, averaging 4 to 5 feet in length, are hooked or netted, and of the five squalidæ known to the natives, the Abu Karnain, the two horned, or hammer-headed, is the commonest catch. From six fish, each measuring about 6 feet, 4 gallons of "seefa," or

liver oil, are extracted by boiling, and the thick liquid purified by straining through matting. The lubricant, packed in petroleum tins, is used for caulking country craft, and the price per tin (4 gallons) purchased direct from the fishermen is 1 rupee 4 annas, but in the town, only a mile distant from the spit, where the crude manufacture is carried out, the cost is Rs. 3 to Rs. 3½, although there is not an octroi on its transit. Every part of a shark, except the head and entrails, is utilized. The body, including the fin and the tail, which are considered the most succulent parts, is salted and dried in the sun; the fresh flesh cut into pieces and sold in the bazaar for Rs. 1½ per 28 lbs., or half the cost of the cured, and the spine and the jaw, if the latter is large, are kept to be vended as curios at Aden. Embryo sharks are eaten by the Arabs as an aphrodisiac, and popular superstition assigns equal potency to the vertebra worn as a girdle round the waist.

Occasionally a few sword fish are netted, and the snout is retained as the most valuable part, while the edible portion of the body is disposed of by the fishermen in the same manner as they treat shark flesh.

M. H. O'Byrne,
Chief of Customs,
Somaliland Protectorate.

Port Dues.

The following statement shows the amount of port dues and boat licence fees collected since 1904-05 at Berbera, which is the only port where such fees are levied:—

Item.	Amount collected in		
	1902–03.	1903–04.	1904–05.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Licence and monthly fees for passenger boats	107	107	158
Licence and monthly fees for cargo boats ...	775	1,050	1,053
Port dues	2,001	5,521	2,915
Total	2,883	6,678	4,126

Additional passenger and cargo boat licences were issued, but the shipping, and consequently the port dues, declined after the expeditionary force had obtained its requisites.

TABLE showing FREIGHT from BULHAR and BERBERA to ADEN.

Live-stock and Articles.			Freight by Steamer.	
			From Berbera.	From Bulhar.
			Rs. a.	Rs. a.
Sheep or goats	...	per head	0 9	0 12 to 1 rupee
Cattle or donkeys	...	,,	5 0	6 0
Camels		,,	6 0	8 0
Mules		,,	6 0	7 0
Horses		,,	8 0	10 0
Ostriches		,,	10 0	10 0
Wild animals		,,	5 0	5 0
Sheep and goat skins		per bale of 10 score	1 0	1 0
Hides		per bale of 2 cwts.	1 0	1 0
Ghee or tallow		per case	0 8	0 8
Gum		per bag	0 12	1 0
Ostrich feathers	...	per large case per small case	2 0 1 0	2 0 1 0
Coffee		per bag	1 0	1 0
Ivory, according to number of tusks		per small bundle	1 8	1 0
Shells, mother-of-pearl		per bag	0 12	0 12
Charcoal		,,	0 8	0 8
Fibre		per bundle	1 0	1 0

NOTE.—Freight by country craft is usually about half the steamer's rate, but it is also dependent on the arrangements with the owner or nakhoda of the dhow.

TABLE showing FREIGHT from ADEN to BERBERA and BULHAR.

Articles.		Freight by	
		Steamer.	Native Craft
		Rs. a.	Rs. a.
European white longcloth ...	per case	1 8	1 0
American grey sheeting ...	per bale	0 12	0 8
Cotton piece goods	per bale of Rs. 100 value.	0 8	0 12*
Tobacco	per bale of 20 to 30 maunds.	2 0	1 0
Tobacco, green	per bale of 7 to 10 maunds.	1 0	0 8
Jowari	per bag	0 3	0 2
Rice	,,	0 3	0 2
Sugar	,,	0 4	0 4
Flour...	,,	0 4	0 3
Grain (any kind)	,,	0 3	0 2
Basket of dates	per kosarah	0 3	0 3
Kerosene oil...	per case	0 3	0 1
Specie	per Rs. 100	0 4	—†

* By country craft, irrespective of value.
† Free if accompanied by owner or other person.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Seven Ordinances were passed during the year, the principal of which were:—

Merchant Shipping Fees—No. 4.

The Berbera and Bulhar Customs Duties Amendment No. 1, Regulations—No. 5.

Foreign Seamen Deserters Regulations—No. 6.

King's African Rifles—No. 8.

Berbera and Bulhar Customs Duties—No. 9.

Registration of Vessels—No. 1.

IV.—EDUCATION.

There are three Government schools, one in each of the principal coast towns of Berbera, Bulhar and Zeyla.

Arabic reading and writing is the only instruction given. The attendance is small, the pupils consisting principally of the children of local merchants, Arab and Indian.

The Roman Catholic Mission at Berbera does good work in giving free education to a number of Somali boys and girls. English is taught, and many of the pupils have obtained employment as clerks in Government offices.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

There are three hospitals, one at each of the principal ports of Berbera, Bulhar and Zeyla.

The total number of patients treated in the three hospitals during the year was 2,459, as against 428 in the year 1902-3.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The following table shows the strength and distribution of the police on March 31st, 1905:—

Station.	Mounted Police.		Foot Police.	
	Jemedars.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.	Jemedars.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.
Berbera and Bulhar ...	1	35	2	138
Karam and Heis	—	—	2	18
Zeyla	1	15	1	86
Total	2	50	5	242

(B.) Prisons.

The following table summarizes the criminal statistics for four years:—

—	1901-02.*		1902-03.		1903-04.*		1904-05.	
	Berbera and Bulhar.	Zeyla.	Berbera and Bulhar.	Zeyla.	Berbera and Bulhar.	Zeyla.	Berbera and Bulhar.	Zeyla.
The number of offences reported to the Police.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
The number of persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrate.	—	—	630	99	—	—	991	43
The number of summary convictions:—								
1. For offences against the person.	—	—	253	23	—	—	183	15
2. For prædial larceny ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny.	—	—	250	19	—	—	386	20
4. For other offences	—	—	66	28	—	—	203	5
The number of convictions in the Protectorate Courts:—								
1. For offences against the person.	—	—	5	1	—	—	—	—
2. For prædial larceny ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. For offences against property, other than prædial larceny.	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
4. For other offences	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
The number of persons acquitted:—								
1. In the inferior Courts ..	—	—	56	28	—	—	217	3
2. In the Protectorate Courts	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* No statistics available.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

No census has ever been taken of the population, which is nomadic, with the exception of merchants and petty traders residing in the coast towns. The total population may be roughly estimated at 300,000.

European Birth and Death Rates.

No births were registered during the year.

The registered deaths numbered 2.

(B.) Public Health.

In two of the large districts, namely those of Berbera and Bulhar a severe epidemic of small-pox has occurred. It was most severe in the town of Berbera, where more than 800 deaths occurred, especially in the overcrowded Somali quarter.

(D.) Climate.

The conditions of those parts of the Protectorate which were free from the above epidemic have shown a generally favourable meteorological condition, with an increase of rainfall.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
443	St. Lucia...	1903
444	Basutoland	1903–1904
445	Leeward Islands...	,,
446	St. Vincent	,,
447	Bermuda...	1904
448	St. Helena	,,
449	Falkland Islands	,,
450	Weihaiwei	,,
451	Hong Kong	,,
452	Gambia	,,
453	Gibraltar...	,,
454	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
455	British Honduras	,,
456	Seychelles	,,
457	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
458	Straits Settlements	,,
459	Southern Nigeria	,,
460	Sierra Leone	,,
461	British Solomon Islands	1903–1905
462	Malta	1904–1905
463	Grenada	1904
464	St. Vincent	,,
465	Gold Coast	,,
466	Barbados...	1904–1905
467	Uganda	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica...	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone ...	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Islands	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

1905.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 508.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1905-6.

(For Report for 1904-5, *see* No. 468.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1906.

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1906.

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No. 508.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE.

(For Report for 1904-5, *see* No. 468.)

THE COMMISSIONER to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Somaliland,
Commissioner's Office,
Camp Hargeisa,
21st September, 1906.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Annual Report on Somaliland for the year ended 31st March, 1906.

I have, &c.,
H. E. S. CORDEAUX.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

1125 Wt 23907 11/06 D & S 5 26255

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1905-6.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) General Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

The revenue estimated for the year 1905-6 was £32,800, whereas the actual revenue was £39,500, being an increase above the estimate of £6,700—an increase over the revenue for the year 1904-5 of £4,300 and a decrease of only about £330 as compared with the revenue collected in 1903-4.

2. There are increases under the heads of revenue "Customs Duties," "Miscellaneous Revenue," "Postal Receipts," and "Unclaimed Deposits," but decreases under "Judicial Fees and Fines" and "Licences, Dues, &c."

3. Under "Customs," the imports of cotton and piece goods, rice, dates, flour, provisions, kerosine oil, wines, spirits, &c., and other unclassified articles decreased, but imports of jowari (millet) show an increase. Under "Export," there were increases in gum and resins, sheep and goats, cattle, camels, hides and skins, and ghee, but decreases in the export of coffee, horses, and shells (mother-of-pearl).

4. Under "Postal Receipts" the comparatively large increase is due to the sale of obsolete stamps to dealers.

5. The decrease under "Judicial Fees and Fines" is attributable to the appointment of political officers, whose duty it is to settle tribal cases, for which no court fees are imposed.

The decline under "Licences, Dues, &c.," is owing to the falling off in port dues, consequent upon the decrease in the imports of rice, dates, flour, and ghee.

Expenditure.

6. It will be seen that the expenditure in the year 1905-6 exceeded the original estimate, the amount of the latter being £108,879, whereas the actual amount expended was £127,480, or an excess of £18,600. This excess was met by the utilization of savings which had accrued in former years and which

had not been appropriated for any special service. The figures for 1905-6 show an increase over those for 1904-5 of £54,793 and an increase of £69,380 over the figures for 1903-4.

7. There were increases as compared with the figures for 1904-5 under all heads with the exceptions "Medical," "Port and Marine," "Non-Effective Services," "Printing and Stationery," and "Repayments to India," and there was expenditure amounting to £9,372 under two new heads, "Militia" and "Compensation to Warsangli."

8. Under "Military" there was an increase of £54,531, owing to the fact that many items relating to the year 1904-5 were not brought to account till 1905-6. For instance, the cost of the upkeep of the 33rd Punjabis for the twelve months ended 30th September, 1905, was brought to account in 1905-6, but half of this amount should have passed through the accounts for the year 1904-5.

In 1905-6 General Swayne's militia scheme was inaugurated, and £7,700 was expended since October 1st, 1905, or during the last six months of the year.

Under "Administration," tribal organization also resulted in an increase over the previous year, but as the result of the militia scheme the figures for this head show a saving on the estimate.

9. The head of expenditure "Compensation to Warsangli" appears in 1905-6 only, the amount spent under this head being to compensate the Warsangli tribe for losses which they incurred owing to the depredations of the Mullah and subsequent operations against him.

10. The principal savings effected were under "Repayments to India" and "Non-Effective Services," the latter being due to the fact that in 1904-5 gratuities were paid to officers wounded, or relatives of officers killed, during the operations against the Mullah. The former head was abolished in 1905-6, any repayments to India in the year being allocated to the various heads of expenditure.

(B.) Important Changes in Taxation.

Nil.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

The total assets on 1st April, 1906, were £94,122 13*s.* 11*d.*, as against £103,195 5*s.* on 1st April, 1905. The liabilities were £15,224 9*s.* 1*d.*, showing a surplus of assets over liabilities of £78,898 4*s.* 10*d.* Against this a sum of £30,500 has been

appropriated in the estimates for 1906-7, leaving a nett available surplus of assets of £48,398 4*s*. 10*d*. A supplementary estimate has been prepared, on the basis that from this sum about £26,000 may be utilized in the year 1906-7.

(D.) Currency.

The currency of the Somaliland Protectorate is based on the British Indian rupee. There are a few Government of India notes in circulation amongst the merchants at the coast towns.

The British sovereign is also used at the coast. It is a convenient size for buyers to bring with them from Aden and other ports when coming to trade in skins or live stock; the middleman accepts it readily enough, but the native from the interior is conservative and will only accept the rupee in exchange for his produce. Consequently, a comparatively large reserve of gold is accumulating in the local Treasury.

Subsidiary coins are:—

Silver—½ Rupee.
¼ Rupee.
⅛ Rupee.

Copper—½ Anna.
¼ Anna.
1/12 Anna.

Abyssinian coins of the same denominations as those of the rupee are occasionally used, and the Maria Theresa dollar was formerly in fairly general circulation, but now is rarely used. It may sometimes be accepted at an exchange varying between Rs. 1 4a. and Rs. 1 6a.

There are no banks doing business in the Protectorate.

(E.) Municipal.

There are no municipal councils in the Protectorate, but a municipal fund exists in Berbera. Revenue, controlled by the District Officer, Berbera, is obtained from the following sources:—

(i.) Sweeping and hut tax.
(ii.) Nuisance fines.

The tax is paid by all resident in the town, and the fines are collected from people committing a nuisance inside a prescribed area.

The establishment maintained is as follows:—

1 Tax Collector at Rs. 30 per mensem.
1 Mucadum at Rs. 27 per mensem.
16 Sweepers at Rs. 16, Rs. 15, and Rs. 12 per mensem.
6 Watchmen at Rs. 12 per mensem.

Considering the population of the town and the absence of any modern sanitary arrangements, Berbera is kept remarkably clean. After rains, which are not of frequent occurrence, pools of water are to be seen here and there in the streets, but are usually dried up in a couple of days.

Revenue during 1905-6 amounted to Rs. 7,275, an increase of Rs. 1,318 on last year. A comparative statement of the total revenue and expenditure of the Berbera Municipality for the five years ended March 31st, 1906, is appended:—

——	1901-2.	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue	5,653	5,246	5,810	5,957	7,275
Expenditure...	5,635	4,063	4,044	4,457	8,040

The Municipality has no debt.

No municipal fund exists in the other towns on the coast, viz., Bulhar and Zaila. Grants are occasionally made from revenue to the Public Works Department for upkeep and repairs of water tanks, &c.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

Apart from the reduced purchasing power of the people, which led to a diminution of 12 per cent. in the value of the imports, the principal feature of the year has been the decrease in the trade of Zaila, owing mainly to the competition of the Djibouti-Harrar railway. This was, however, in some degree counterbalanced by the fact of the failure of the crops in the Harrar country, which brought the tribesmen to the ports to buy grain.

The annual value of the trade of the British Somaliland Protectorate for the last five years was—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1901–2	46,16,961	46,64,300	92,81,261
1902–3	39,26,698*	36,38,159*	75,64,857*
1903–4	56,21,817	29,95,483	86,17,300
1904–5	44,81,072	28,61,369	73,42,441
1905–6	39,27,414	30,40,980	69,68,394

* Including Heis, where Customs House was opened in May, 1902.

Imports.

The value of the imports for the year 1905-6, including specie (Rs. 1,56,843), was Rs. 40,84,257.

The value of the imports and specie imported into each port during 1905-6 was:—

—	Rupees.	Rupees.
Value of Imports :—		
Berbera	21,29,168	
Bulhar	7,40,663	
Heis...	71,263	
Karam	14,818	
Zaila	9,71,502	
		39,27,414
Value of Specie :—		
Berbera	1,10,710	
Bulhar	956	
Zaila	45,177	
		1,56,843
Total	—	40,84,257

Remarks on Imports.

Cotton Goods.

European white longcloth shows a decrease of Rs. 71,866. This is considered a more or less ornamental cloth, and its place is being taken by the plain but more durable American grey shirting, which, for all the ports except Zaila, shows an increase of Rs. 81,866. At Zaila, however, the value of American grey shirting imported fell off by Rs. 1,49,549, owing chiefly to the competition of the Djibouti-Harrar railway, and partly to the fact that, for business reasons, the market was overstocked in 1904-5.

Other cotton piece goods (including ready-made apparel) show a net decrease of Rs. 21,457. The demand for these goods is variable, depending on the prosperity and number of the townsmen, who are the purchasers.

Other Textiles.

Silk goods have fallen off by Rs. 5,617, and woollen goods by Rs. 3,020. These goods are articles of luxury, and the demand for them is variable.

Grain and Flour.

The imports of jowari increased by Rs. 93,128, but there were decreases of Rs. 1,81,554 in rice, Rs. 476 in other grains, and Rs. 46,459 in flour.

The decrease in rice and flour was due partly to the poverty of the people, which accounts for the increase in the less expensive jowari, and partly to the fact that a favourable breeding season enabled the Somalis to subsist mainly on the milk of their flocks.

Provisions.

As in the case of flour, the conditions of the country have caused a reduction in the imports of provisions generally, the chief decreases being Rs. 66,533 in dates, Rs. 14,238 in sugar, and Rs. 3,548 in tea.

Fewer imports of European stores have been made by the dealers at Berbera and Bulhar, and preserved provisions have fallen off by Rs. 20,463, and wines, spirits, and malt liquors by Rs. 21,308.

Other Goods.

The economic condition of the country has led to reduced imports of many commodities, the principal decreases being:—

	Rs.
Tobacco	3,184
Glass and amber beads	6,011
Bags and sacks	8,109
Enamelled ware	3,212
Building material	9,406
Drugs and medicines	9,636
Iron and steel ware (including cutlery and nails)	4,052
Miscellaneous	47,823

In addition, kerosine has fallen off by Rs. 22,753, owing to the market being overstocked in 1904-5, and tanned skins (at Zaila only) by Rs. 3,509, owing to railway competition.

The imports of firearms and ammunition, which vary according to Government requirements and the number of Europeans in the country, increased by Rs. 4,194.

Exports.

In 1905-6 the value of the exports amounted to Rs. 33,21,990, distributed as follows:—

Exports.	Value.
	Rs.
Somaliland Produce	30,35,885
Imports—re-exported goods ...	5,095
Specie	2,81,010
Total	33,21,990

Remarks on Exports.

Apart from specie, the exports showed an increase of Rs. 1,79,611 over the figures of the previous year. The successful breeding season accounted for the following increases:—

	Rs.
Hides	29,194
Skins	6,243
Ghee	1,13,257
Tallow	4,452
Sheep and goats...	1,07,265
Cattle	25,190

There have also been increases of Rs. 72,404 in gums and resins, owing to the favourable prices offered; Rs. 8,220 in camels, arising from special shipments to South Africa; Rs. 8,047 in pearls, from increased competition, and Rs. 4,733 in ostrich feathers, owing to the resumption of trade at Aden after the plague.

The principal decreases have been:—

Ingot gold (Rs. 87,686), jabad (Rs. 28,795), and coffee (Rs. 19,107), which are now diverted to the Djibouti railway.

Mother of pearl (Rs. 24,310), owing to the reduced number of pearl fishers who have visited the ports.

Horses (Rs. 13,800), which are now mainly exported from Djibouti and elsewhere, in order to evade the export duties, and Miscellaneous (Rs. 10,974).

(C.) Shipping.

The shipping returns for the Somaliland Protectorate show a decrease of 50 vessels and an increase of 17,967 tons.

—	1904–5.		1905–6.	
	Nos.	Tons.	Nos.	Tons.
Entered	2,169	66,398	2,154	75,593
Cleared	2,187	66,639	2,152	75,411
Total	4,356	133,037	4,306	151,004

Though the total shipping is augmented by the inclusion for the first time of 295 vessels and 6,813 tonnage registered at Heis, 80 fewer sailing vessels visited the ports.

The excess of 30 steamers over the last year's number resulted from the entry of a new steamer in competition against the line of coast steamers which hitherto has held the monopoly, the frequent calls of the latter, and the charter of special vessels for shipping the military contractors' stores and conveying camels to South Africa.

The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered and cleared during the year 1905-6 were:—

—	Steamers		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Berbera—						
Entered	122	33,993	579	11,332	701	45,325
Cleared...	121	33,992	577	11,122	698	45,114
Total	243	67,985	1,156	22,454	1,399	90,439
Bulhar—						
Entered	52	5,949	469	6,368	521	12,317
Cleared...	52	5,949	469	6,368	521	12,317
Total	104	11,898	938	12,736	1,042	24,634
Heis—						
Entered—	—	—	147	3,392	147	3,392
Cleared...	—	—	148	3,421	148	3,421
Total	—	—	295	6,813	295	6,813
Zaila—						
Entered	61	7,986	724	6,573	785	14,559
Cleared...	61	7,986	724	6,573	785	14,559
Total	122	15,972	1,448	13,146	1,570	29,118

The nationality of vessels entered into and cleared from the Somaliland Protectorate during the year 1905-6 is made up as under:—

Nationality.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Nos.	Tons.	Nos.	Tons.
British	713	51,184	710	51,098
French	19	1,039	18	1,033
Italian	41	996	41	947
German	2	2,972	2	2,972
Turkish	16	913	15	215
Arab	1,363	18,489	1,366	19,146

(D.) Harbour Dues.

The total harbour dues collected at the port of Berbera during the year 1905-6 are shown under the different headings as under:—

—	Amount.
	Rs.
Port dues or tonnage dues	2,004
Licence and monthly fees for passenger-boats	170
Licence and monthly fees for cargo-boats	847
Total	3,021
Total collection for 1904-5	4,126
Decrease	1,105

(E.) Inland Trade.

(Brought in by Caravans.)

The value of the inland trade registered at the Berbera and Bulhar "Zaribas" for the year 1905-6 was:—

—	Amount.
	Rs.
Berbera	17,45,428
Bulhar	11,92,835
Total value ... Rs.	29,38,263

III.—LEGISLATION.

One Order in Council, and three King's Regulations were promulgated during the year, viz.:—

The Somaliland Order in Council, 1906.

The Somaliland Firearms Regulations, 1905 (No. 2 of 1905).

The Somaliland Customs Amendment Regulations, 1905 (No. 3 of 1905).

The Meith Island Guano Regulations, 1905 (No. 4 of 1905).

IV.—EDUCATION.

There are three Government schools in the Protectorate, one in each of the principal towns, viz., Berbera, Bulhar, and Zaila. The education is meagre, and is confined to instruction in the reading and writing of Arabic. The pupils are children of local merchants, Arabs, and Indians, also a few Somalis. The average attendance in the various schools is as follows:—

Berbera	53
Bulhar	34
Zaila	41

The cost of maintenance of these schools during the year was Rs. 1,545.

The Roman Catholic Mission has two establishments in the Protectorate, a mission house and a convent situated in Berbera. Free education of an elementary nature is given to Somali children, and a certain amount of technical instruction is afforded to more advanced pupils, some of whom have obtained employment under Government as clerks and telegraphists. Gardening and other trades are also taught.

Beyond the efforts of the Fathers, there is no secondary education, and industrial schools or technical and training colleges do not exist.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

There are three hospitals situated in the coast towns of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zaila, respectively, under civil charge. There is also at Berbera an isolation hospital in course of construction, especially designed to accommodate the increasing number of phthisical patients. There is, as well, a single ward building for the purpose of meeting epidemic contingencies.

The up-country hospitals are situated at Sheikh and Burao, and are camp hospitals only; they are under military and militia charge.

The number of cases treated in the civil hospitals was 9,109, as against 19,290 in last year. There were 157 deaths, as against 911 for the previous year, the diminution in numbers being on account of the small-pox epidemic which occurred in the year 1904.

The daily average sick were 23·4, and the percentage of deaths to the total treated was 1·75. The in-patients admitted during 1905 were 314, of whom 12 remained at the end of the year.

Berbera Hospital.

The hospital at Berbera consists of three wards, containing 42 beds, and the daily average of sick was 15-16. No accommodation exists for European patients.

Bulhar Hospital.

This consists of a single ward holding six beds, and a dispensary to which it is attached.

Zai'a Hospital.

There are three wards capable of holding 38 patients in all. The hospital is contained within, and forms part of, the Fort.

(B.) Asylums.

No proper asylum exists, but a small room within the gaol at Berbera is made use of when it is desired that a suspected case be kept under observation.

(C.) Poor-houses.

There are no poor-houses in the Protectorate, but a "poor fund," from which grants are made to deserving cases, is kept up by private subscriptions and administered by the District Officer at Berbera.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The following table shows the strength and distribution of police, mounted and foot, on March 31st, 1906:—

Mounted Police.

Station.	Jemadars.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.
Berbera and Bulhar	1	35
Zaila	1	15
Total	2	50

Foot Police.

Station.	Superintendent of Police.	Jemadars.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.
Berbera and Bulhar ...	1	2	145
Karam and Heis	—	2	30
Zaila	—	2	85
Total	1	6	260

Both mounted and foot police at Berbera, Bulhar, Karam, and Heis are under the District Officer, Berbera, to whom the Superintendent of Police is responsible.

The total cost of police during the year, including all salaries and personal emoluments, but excluding prisons, was Rs. 90,764 1a. Cost of prisons amounted to Rs. 7,822 8a.

Records show that there were 1,857 cases reported to the police in 1905-6. Out of that number there were 1,601 summary convictions in the subordinate Courts, and 14 convictions in the Protectorate Court.

A comparative statement of cases reported to the police at Berbera during the last five years is appended:—

Year.	Cases reported.	Convictions or Committals.
1901–2	No statistics available	No statistics available.
1902–3	630	574.
1903–4	No statistics available	No statistics available.
1904–5	991	774.
1905–6	1,457	1,241.

Of the 1,457 cases, 353 appear under the head of "Other offences," which include breaches of local rules and other minor offences, leaving 1,104 cases to come under the heading of "crime." In 1904-5 there were 213 cases under the heading of "Other offences," leaving 778 cases to come under the heading of "crime." There has, therefore, been an increase of 326 cases of crime during the year. This increase, however, is not abnormal, and is due to the growth in the population of the town, consequent on a large influx of "miskeens," or destitute persons, at the end of the military expeditions against the Mullah. Temptation to commit petty thefts was also great during the earlier months of the year, owing to the large quantities of surplus Government stores exposed for auction and sold to the public. Serious crime in the town is conspicuous by its absence.

During the year under review, only 200 cases have been reported, and of that number 180 were for robbery. There have been no murder cases, and only one case of manslaughter in 1905-6.

No statistics are available for previous years from which comparisons can be made, but the following table shows the nature of serious crimes in 1905-6:—

Manslaughter	1
Rape	4
Robbery	180
Grievous hurt	15
Total	200

The convictions in the Protectorate Court for the past five years are as follows:—

Year.	Protectorate Court.	District Court.
1901–2	Not available	Not available.
1902–3	5	569.
1903–4	Not available	Not available.
1904–5	2	772.
1905–6	3	1,225.

The Protectorate Court returns show cases tried before His Majesty's Commissioner.

The District Court figures represent cases tried in Berbera and Bulhar District Courts. Petty cases, such as the committing of nuisances, are dealt with in the Town Magistrate's Court.

(B.) Prisons.

During the year, 1,205 convicted prisoners were admitted to the Berbera-Bulhar prisons—an increase of 329 on the preceding year.

Prisoners sentenced by Military or Political Courts are also received into custody, but cases tried by these Courts are not included in the ordinary criminal returns.

During the year, nine prisoners escaped from custody, out of which number two were re-captured.

The following table shows the number of escapes and re-captures during the past three years:—

Year.	Escaped.	Recaptured.
1903-4	3	—
1904-5	4	—
1905-6	9	2
Total	16	2

The daily average of convicted prisoners confined in the Berbera-Bulhar gaols was 150, as against 106 in 1904-5.

In 1905-6 the deaths among convicts were 3, as against 15 during the previous year.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

The population of the Protectorate, beyond officials and missionaries is composed of Somalis, Arabs, Indians, and Jews. The three latter races are to be found in the coast towns, where they are engaged in commerce or petty industries. Their exact numbers have never been determined, but they form a very small part of the community. It is impossible to obtain an exact census of the population of the Protectorate, as the Somali is entirely nomadic, and constantly moving in search of water and grazing for his flocks A rough estimate has placed the population at 300,000, and, owing to the ravages of the small-pox epidemic in 1904-5, it is probable that there has been no increase during the present year.

Owing to the nomadic habits of the Somali, the population of the coast towns is never constant.

In Berbera the population may vary from 40,000 in the cold season (October to April) to 20,000 or less during the "Kharif" (May to September). In the latter season at least a quarter of the population is beyond the Protectorate boundaries in the Abyssinian or Italian Haud, and also on the Jig Jiga plains, the grazing rights of our tribes in that direction having been secured at the time of the Rennell-Rodd Mission to Abyssinia.

Birth and Death Rates.

No system of registering the births and deaths amongst the native population exists, their nomadic habits making registration impossible. Two deaths were registered in Berbera on the 14th and 19th of April, 1905. In both cases the deceased were Christians, of Goanese origin in the one case, and Eurasian in the other.

One birth, that of a Goanese child, was registered in July, 1905.

(B.) Public Health.

The general public health of the Protectorate during the year has been good.

The periods when sickness is most prevalent are the spring and autumn. This is due to the lack of provision made by the natives for changes in temperature, as regards their clothing, which remains the same at all seasons, and is of cotton only.

Definite organic disease, especially among the European population, is rare; but the conditions of life among Europeans eminently predispose to neurasthenic conditions of a very definite character, requiring a change to a less trying climate before complete recovery takes place. The violent sand storms which occur during the summer months visibly affect both Europeans and natives, especially as they are coincident with very high temperatures. Cases of anæmia and general debility result, partially caused also by the lack of vegetables which occurs at this season. Among the natives, this deficiency is in part made good by their extensive use of camel milk as an article of diet, replacing the deficiency of salts.

There were 314 cases of small-pox during the year, with 144 deaths. No cases of plague occurred.

Malarial Fever.

Remittent fever on the coast has not proved to be severe in type during the year, the number of cases being 177, without a single death having been recorded. The number of cases, however, shows a large increase on the last year, when only nine cases were recorded, and one death.

Intermittent fever shows a decrease of prevalence, the number of cases being 1,007, as against 1,057 cases last year. No deaths occurred.

The comparative immunity from malarial disease is in great measure due to the excessive dry heat and the violence of the sand storms which range during the summer months, as all natural breeding places for mosquitoes, such as damp hollows in

the ground, become filled up by the sand, as well as completely dried up. The total increase is ascribable to the facilities afforded by the generally defective state of the buildings, and blocked condition of the drainage systems.

Dysentery.

The number of cases for the year was 117 with only one death, as against 487 in 1904 with two deaths. All the cases which have come under notice have been of a very mild type.

Cancer.

Only one case is recorded, that being a case of epithelioma of the lip.

Diseases of the Skin.

3,793 persons were treated for skin diseases during the year; these were chiefly ulcer cases of the usual tropical type, occurring on the ankles of badly-nourished subjects.

Phthisis.

Thirty-six cases came under treatment. This is very far below even the lowest estimate of its occurrence. Accommodation has in the past been lacking, and the patients have been accustomed to make their way to their native villages, in the absence of hospital facilities for their treatment.

Vaccinations.

The number of vaccinations performed during the year was 1,650; of these 496 were successful and 804 unknown in result. It is probable that at the present time about 20 per cent. of the population of the towns have been vaccinated; and about 5 per cent. have the marks of small-pox.

(C.) Sanitation.

General Sanitary Condition of the Protectorate and Chief Towns.

The general sanitary state of the coast towns is extremely bad, and the majority of the buildings are in an insanitary condition. The houses built by the Egyptians during their occupation of the coast-line, and now occupied by European officials, have fallen into disrepair, and the disused cess-pits beneath them are a source of constant complaint. No drainage system proper exists. It is only owing to the dry condition of the climate that serious outbreaks of disease do not occur.

Berbera.

This, the chief town, alone has a water service, which is drawn from the hills about nine miles distant, and comes out of the ground at a temperature of 100° F. The water contains an excess of chlorides, and is brought to the town in pipes.

The drainage system consists of open gutters for surface water, and a dry-earth closet system for the European quarters.

the latter proving good and effective, as well as especially suitable to the climate.

Over-crowding is unknown owing to the temporary nature of the native dwelling accommodation, which consists only of mat shelters, transported from place to place by camels.

Bulhar and Zaila.

These towns are supplied by brackish wells at some considerable distance from the sea shore, on which they are situated. The water is liable to produce symptoms of diarrhœa for several weeks among those unaccustomed to the impurities and sand which it is difficult to separate from the water, owing to its extremely dirty condition.

Inland Posts.

Posts at Sheikh, Burao, and Ber, have all a water supply of fair quality, but limited quantity. No permanent dwellings exist.

(D.) Climate.

The climate of the Somaliland Protectorate, although subject to wide range in temperature where any altitude is reached, may be classified as one of great uniformity. Both the diurnal and the seasonal variations of temperature show a remarkable regularity.

There are two distinct seasons: the hot season, or summer, from May to September; and the cool season, or winter, from October to April; the change being nearly concomitant with the monsoon changes.

The climate may be uniformly described as hot and dry, approaching closely to a true desert climate along the whole coast belt; while a lack of rainfall affects also the higher and cooler parts of the country during the summer months, rendering them barren over extensive areas.

Temperature.

There are two distinct ranges of temperature, that of the coast level, and that of the uplands of the interior. The first holds good over a belt along the coast, some 40 miles wide, which extends inland to the foot of the hills, and the second over all the country to the interior, where it differs only in the relative coolness of its seasons from the former.

No records for the year 1905 are available, as regards the Highland climate, but the approximate temperatures run about 10° F. lower than the coast level observations.

The extremes of temperatures recorded at Berbera were:—lowest, 60° F. on February 4th; highest, 113° F. on August 31st.

At Zaila, the highest and lowest temperatures were:—lowest, 60° F. on February 4th; highest, 113° F. on August on July 16th.

The mean temperature at Berbera was 83° F., and the mean daily range 15° F.

Rainfall.

The rainfall throughout the country is almost exclusively confined to the cool season. The total fall as registered for the year, at Berbera, was 7·71 inches, and of this, not less than 4·80 inches fell within the 24 hours of March the 22nd.

There are no records of any such rainfall as this having been measured, but similar exceptional cloud-bursts are known to have taken place along the coast at comparatively recent dates.

Direction and Force of Wind.

The direction of the wind is from the north-east during the months of October, November, December, January, and part of February; and from the south-west during the latter half of May, and the months of June, July, and the first half of August; while the months of September and March and April are calm, or only affected by light variable winds.

There is no apparatus for recording wind velocity.

Solar Radiation.

This showed a mean of 130; and a maximum was recorded on May the 16th of 164.

Abnormal Phenomena.

Severe shocks of earthquake were felt at Zaila on January the 29th and 30th—at the hours of 5, 7, and 9.30 p.m. on the 29th; and at 2, 5, and 10 p.m. on the 30th. Slight shocks were reported as having been felt at Sheikh on the former date, though the actual time of their being felt was not recorded.

VIII.—ECCLESIASTICAL.

Churches in the Protectorate are represented by a Roman Catholic Mission established in Berbera 15 years ago.

A branch also existed in Zaila, but was closed about the year 1896. The efforts of the missionaries are chiefly directed along educational and philanthropic lines. Children of tender years are brought to the mission by their parents or relatives, and, in many cases, the waifs of the town are taken in. Beyond bringing up the children so received in the Catholic faith, no attempt is made to detach the people of the country from the faith of Islam. A dispensary is attached to the mission, and poor people are medically attended free of charge.

The endeavours of the missionaries in the cause of education have been remarked on under Education.

COLONIAL REPORTS

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year
481	Ceylon	1904
482	St. Lucia	"
483	Ashanti	1905
484	Bermuda	"
485	Hong Kong	"
486	St. Helena	"
487	Weihaiwei	"
488	Gold Coast	"
489	Seychelles	"
490	Falkland Islands	"
491	Gambia	"
492	Jamaica	1904–1905
493	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1905
494	Ceylon	"
495	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
496	Bahamas	1905–1906
497	Barbados	"
498	Malta	1905
499	British Central Africa Protectorate	1905–1906
500	Colonial Survey Committee	"
501	Grenada	1905
502	Straits Settlements	"
503	Gibraltar	"
504	Trinidad and Tobago	1905–1906
505	St. Lucia	1905
506	Mauritius	"
507	Southern Nigeria (Lagos)	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone ...	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.
31	Northern Nigeria	Cotton, &c.
32	Do. Do.	Mineral Survey.
33	Southern Nigeria	Do.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis ...	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904–5.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 542.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1906-7.

(For Report for 1905–6, *see* No. 508.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1907.

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No. 542.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 508.)

THE ACTING COMMISSIONER to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Commissioner's Office,
Camp Arialeh,
14th September, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Somaliland Protectorate for the year ended 31st March, 1907.

I have, &c.,
W. MALCOLM JONES,
Acting Commissioner.

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

1125 Wt 24282 10/07 D & S 5 30081

REPORT ON THE SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1906-7.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) General Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

The revenue estimated for the year 1906-7 was £28,905, whereas the actual revenue came to £38,388, being an increase over the estimate of £9,483—but a decrease on the revenue for the year of 1905-6 of £1,089—though an increase of £3,200 over the revenue for the year 1904-5.

As compared with the revenue for the year 1905-6, increases appear under "Customs Duties," "Interest," "Judicial Fines and Fees" and "Unclaimed Deposits," but decreases under "Licences, Dues, &c.," "Miscellaneous Revenue" and "Postal Receipts."

The increase under "Customs Duties" is comparatively small, and may be attributed to a slight increase of trade emanating from the Makhir coast ports.

The increase under "Judicial Fines and Fees" is due to the fact that more civil suit cases were tried by the Protectorate Courts, resulting in an increase in court fees.

The decrease under "Licences and Dues" is caused by the inclusion of Port Dues under "Customs Duties."

Under "Postal Receipts" the decrease is explained by the amount received for sale of obsolete stamps being much less than in the previous year.

Expenditure.

The estimated expenditure for 1906-7 was £121,758, but only £107,104 was expended, the saving being £14,654. Comparing the figures of 1906-7 with those of 1905-6, a decrease is shown of £20,376, and an increase over the figures for 1904-5 of £33,417.

Increases, as compared with the figures for 1905-6, appear under the heads "Audit," "Bombay Agency," Conservancy," "Exchange," "Medical," "Non-Effective Services," "Printing and Stationery," "Public Works," "Purchase of Expeditionary Stores from War Office," while decreases are shown under "Administration," "Customs," "Educational," "Military and Militia," "Miscellaneous," "Native Civil Administration," "Police and Prisons," "Port and Marine," "Post and Telegraphs," "Transport and Passages," "Treasury," "Dolbahanta Political Grant," "Compensation to Warsangli," and "Old Somali Levy."

The increase under "Public Works" is due to more extensive building operations than in 1905-6.

From "Administration" the cost of Tribal Militia was excluded and included under "Militia."

A decrease of £12,093 appears under military and militia schedules as compared with the expenditure under these heads in 1905-6. The military forces were re-organized.

(B.) Important Changes in Taxation.

Nil.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

The total assets on the 1st April, 1907, were £67,460 13*s.* 4*d.*, as compared with £94,122 13*s.* 11*d.* on 1st April, 1906.

The liabilities were £14,024 16*s.* 8*d.*, showing a surplus of assets over liabilities of £53,435 16*s.* 8*d.*

(D.) Currency.

The currency of Somaliland Protectorate is based on the Indian rupee. A few Government of India notes are in circulation. The British sovereign is also in circulation, but chiefly on the coast, the native from the interior preferring the silver coinage as being the more convenient for trading purposes.

Subsidiary coins are:—

Silver—½ Rupee.
¼ Rupee.
⅛ Rupee.
Copper—½ Anna.
¼ Anna.
1/12 Anna.

The Indian new "nickel" 1 anna coins have not as yet come into circulation in the Protectorate.

Abyssinian coins of the same denominations as those of the rupee are occasionally used, and the "Maria Theresa" dollar to a limited extent is in circulation, the rate of exchange varying between Rs. 1 4a. and Rs. 1 10a.

There are no banks doing business in the Protectorate.

(E.) Municipal.

A municipal fund exists in Berbera only, revenue controlled by the District Officer, Berbera, being derived from the following sources:—

1. Sweeping and hut tax.
2. Nuisance fines.

The tax is paid by every house-owner in the town of Berbera, and the fines are collected from people committing a nuisance within a limited area.

The tax is levied at Berbera only, but fines are inflicted both at Bulhar and Zeyla.

The establishment maintained is as follows:—

1 Tax Collector at Rs. 30 per mensem.
1 Foreman at Rs. 27 per mensem.
16 Sweepers at Rs. 16, Rs. 15, and Rs. 12 per mensem.
6 Watchmen at Rs. 12 per mensem.

Revenue during the year 1906-7 amounted to Rs. 7,880 7a., and showed an increase of Rs. 605 7a. on the preceding year, with a decrease of Rs. 1,128 in expenditure.

A comparative statement of revenue and expenditure of the Berbera Municipal Fund during the last five years is shown below:—

——	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue	5,246	5,810	5,957	7,275	7,880
Expenditure...	4,063	4,044	4,457	8,040	6,912

There is no municipality in Zeyla. The town is kept clean by sweepers, who are paid by the administration. There are eight sweepers, one foreman and one lamp-lighter, who cost altogether Rs. 2,124 per annum.

At the present time, most of the trade having left the port, owing to the completion of the Djibouti Railway, it is hardly advisable to propose any fresh taxation; but it is difficult to understand why, when the trade of Zeyla was flourishing, the whole expense of keeping the town clean should have been thrown on the Administration.

(F.) Debts of the Municipalities.

The municipality of Berbera has no debt.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

The annual value of trade of the British Somaliland Protectorate for the last five years was:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1902-3	39,26,688	36,38,159	75,64,857
1903-4	56,21,817	29,95,483	86,17,300
1904-5	44,81,072	28,61,369	73,42,441
1905-6	39,27,414	30,40,980	69,68,394
1906-7	41,68,329	31,80,885	73,49,214

Imports.

The value of the imports for the year 1906-7, including specie (Rs. 190,180), was Rs. 43,58,509.

The value of imports and specie imported into each port during the year 1906-7 was:—

Port.	——	Value.	Value.
	Value of Imports.	Rs.	Rs.
Berbera ...	... ...	19,10,404	
Bulhar ...	... ...	9,66,952	
Hais... ...	... ...	1,03,688	
Karam ...	... ...	17,570	
Zeyla ...	... ...	11,69,715	
			41,68,329
	Value of Specie.		
Berbera ...	... ...	66,985	
Bulhar ...	... ...	8,145	
Zeyla ...	... ...	1,15,050	
			1,90,180
	Total	—	43,58,509

Remarks on Imports.

Cotton Goods.

The year's imports show an increase in the value of European white long-cloth to the value of Rs. 29,925, which can be accounted for mainly by the presence in the coast towns of an unusual number of Ogaden caravans, the owners of which are large purchasers for the purpose of trade in the interior. The large increase of Rs. 4,72,213 in the value of American grey shirting, though due partly to the above cause, is mainly to be accounted for by the threatened imposition of a 10 per cent. duty on goods carried to Abyssinia by the Djibouti railway, which temporarily diverted the trade to Zeyla. A slight decrease in the import of Indian cotton goods is due to the growing preference for the more durable European and American material.

Other Textiles.

The demand for silk goods is always variable, the increased quantity of such goods imported during the year (Rs. 3,560) being chiefly in response to an increased demand from Abyssinia.

Grain, Flour, and Dates.

Rice shows a decrease of Rs. 3,76,925. Large stocks remained in hand from last year, and the general advance of price, in sympathy with the prices ruling in the Indian market,

decreased consumption, the natives finding an efficient substitute for the expensive rice in the cheaper jowari (or millet). Jowari and other grain, however, far from showing the increase which might have been expected, have decreased to the extent of Rs. 15,401.

In 1905-6 a poor harvest in Abyssinia compelled the Harrar traders to purchase imported grain, but in the year under review good crops at Harrar have rendered such purchases unnecessary.

There has been an increase in the value of flour imported to the value of Rs. 11,908. Originally imported only for the use of European residents and alien traders, its consumption as an article of food is gradually growing among Somalis, and the substitution of flour for grain, though at present insignificant, must have been a small factor in helping to reduce the grain imports commented upon above.

The import of dates has fallen off to the extent of Rs. 59,628. The causes of this decline are to be found in short supply and high prices.

Imports of food supplies as a whole, fluctuate with rainfall. In years when grazing is plentiful the natives are enabled to subsist almost exclusively on the milk and produce of their flocks, and as it is only in bad years that they are compelled to have recourse to imported food, a decrease in imports is the natural result of a year of prosperity.

Provisions.

Sugar, due to its growing use among natives, principally as a flavouring for tea, has increased by Rs. 16,109, and an increase of Rs. 10,830 is shown under the head of European stores and tea.

Increases also appear as under:—

	Rs.
Amber beads	4,526
Enamelled ware	1,497
Earthen and glass ware	5,309
Building material	4,632
Iron and steel ware, cutlery, and nails...	747
Kerosine	8,577
Miscellaneous	24,895

The increased importation of imitation amber beads and enamelled iron ware has involved a slight decrease in glass beads (Rs. 115) and brass and copper ware (Rs. 400), for the reason that the native who cannot afford genuine amber ornaments, prefers the cheap imitation to glass, and that enamelled ware is in growing demand for domestic purposes in preference to the more costly copper utensils.

Specie imported, which shows a large increase, was mostly dollar currency destined for use in Abyssinia.

Exports.

In 1906-7 the value of exports amounted to Rs. 33,18,837, distributed as follows:—

Exports.	Value.
	Rs.
Somaliland produce	31,74,880
Imports re-exported	6,005
Specie	1,37,952
Total ... Rs.	33,18,837

Remarks on Exports.

Exports, other than specie, show an increase during the year of Rs. 1,39,990 over the figures for 1905-6. Among the more noticeable items are the following:—

	Rs.
Coffee	89,380
Beeswax	1,693
Ghee	1,56,390
Ostrich feathers	10,915
Pearls	18,220
Sheep and goats	25,420

The increased export of coffee, beeswax, and feathers was due to a temporary diversion of trade from Djibouti to Zeyla, owing to fear of the imposition of a 10 per cent. duty on railway traffic. The production of ghee was greater, owing to the prosperous season and the consequent larger supply of milk for the manufacture.

Decreased exports are shown under:—

	Rs.
Gums and resins, to the extent of ...	19,234
Skins, to the extent of	94,418
Shells, to the extent of	17,607
Miscellaneous, to the extent of	4,696
Cattle, to the extent of	7,455
and specie	

The decreased production of gums and resins is due chiefly to the fact that its collection depends on the individual inclinations of poor nomad gum pickers, and to the meagre price offered by merchants at the ports.

The export of skins has fallen off for the same reason that the production of ghee has increased, namely, a favourable season, during which the slaughter of animals is restricted by native flockowners. The deficiency in mother-of-pearl shells is due to a smaller number of pearl-fishing dhows having visited the ports, and to the successful competition of the Djibouti market.

(C.) Shipping.

The shipping returns for the British Somaliland Protectorate show an increase of 185 vessels and 17,075 tons:—

—	1904–5.		1905–6.		1906–7.	
	Nos.	Tons.	Nos.	Tons.	Nos.	Tons.
Entered ...	2,169	66,398	2,154	75,593	2,246	83,621
Cleared ...	2,187	66,639	2,152	75,411	2,245	84,458
Total ...	4,356	133,037	4,306	151,004	4,491	168,079

More frequent calls of the competitive coasting steamers increased the number which entered and cleared by 153, representing 9,923 extra tonnage, and the greater bulk of trade brought into and taken from the ports of Hais and Bulhar by sailing vessels, during a very prosperous year, contributed to the additional country craft shipping and tonnage, the difference between 1905-6 and 1906-7 being 3,837 and 3,869 in number, and 55,149 and 62,301 in tonnage, respectively.

The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered and cleared during the year 1906-7:—

—	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Nos.	Tons.	Nos.	Tons.	Nos.	Tons.
Berbera—						
Entered	153	32,126	613	11,721	766	43,847
Cleared...	153	32,126	612	12,568	765	44,694
Total	306	64,252	1,225	24,289	1,531	88,541
Bulhar—						
Entered	89	10,964	542	7,589	631	18,553
Cleared...	89	10,964	542	7,589	631	18,553
Total	178	21,928	1,084	15,178	1,262	37,106
Hais—						
Entered	—	—	194	6,004	194	6,004
Cleared...	—	—	194	5,994	194	5,994
Total	—	—	388	11,998	388	11,998
Zeyla—						
Entered	69	9,799	586	5,418	655	15,217
Cleared...	69	9,799	586	5,418	655	15,217
Total	138	19,598	1,172	10,836	1,310	30,434

The nationality of vessels entered and cleared during 1906-7 for the British Somaliland Protectorate is made up thus:—

Nationality.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Nos.	Tons.	Nos.	Tons.
British	1,685	67,741	1,698	67,516
French	9	989	11	1,340
Italian	40	737	41	767
German	2	3,516	2	3,516
Turkish	16	1,154	17	1,852
Arab	493	9,375	475	9,358
Persian	1	109	1	109

(D.) Harbour Dues.

The total harbour dues collected at the port of Berbera during the year 1906-7 are shown under the different headings:—

——	Amount.
	Rs.
Port dues or tonnage dues	1,651
Licence and monthly fees for passenger boats	207
Licence and monthly fees for cargo boats	1,148
Total	3,006
Total collection for 1905-6	3,021
Decrease ... ... Rs.	15

(E.) Inland Trade.

(Brought in by Caravans.)

The value of the inland trade registered at Berbera and Bulhar zaribas for 1906-7 was:—

——	Amount.
	Rs.
Berbera	14,94,213
Bulhar	14,90,006
Total value ... Rs.	29,84,219

showing an increase in value over 1905-6 of Rs. 45,956.

Registration Fees.

The total revenue derived from registration fees in the Protectorate during the year 1906-7 was collected as under:—

—	Amount.
	Rs.
Berbera, Bulhar, and Hais :—	
Registration Fees	402
Miscellaneous Fees	25
Zeyla :—	
Registration Fees	315
Total ... ... Rs.	742

Fees charged under the Merchant Shipping Regulation, 1906-7:—

—	Amount.
	Rs.
Berbera :—	
Bills of Health	135
Other Miscellaneous	4
Total ... ... Rs.	139

Statement of Customs collection in the Protectorate for the year 1906-7, compared with the year 1905-6:—

—	Imports.	Exports.	Zariba.	Miscellaneous Receipts.	Total.	Refunds.	Balance.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1905-6.							
Berbera	2,02,776	1,43,922	31,873	840	3,79,411	885	3,78,526
Zeyla	38,802	21,716	—	448	60,966	—	60,966
Hais and Karam ..	5,488	4,332	—	57	9,877	—	9,877
Total .. Rs.	2,47,066	1,69,970	31,873	1,345	4,50,254	885	4,49,369
1906-7.							
Berbera and Bulhar	2,01,655	1,43,314	33,349	4,085*	3,82,403	13	3,82,390
Zeyla	39,122	19,124	—	755†	59,001	—	59,001
Hais and Karam ..	7,336	5,896	—	75	13,307	—	13,307
Total .. Rs.	2,48,113	1,68,334	33,349	4,915	4,54,711	13	4,54,698
Increase Rs.	1,047	—	1,476	3,570	6,093	—	5,329
Decrease Rs.	—	1,636	—	—	1,636	—	—

* Port dues Rs. 2,684, registration of vessels Rs. 427, and other receipts Rs. 974.
† Registration of vessels Rs. 314, and other receipts Rs. 441.

(F.) Trade, Agriculture and Land Grants.

Land Grants.

No grant of land has been given during the year under report. The dry, arid nature of the soil and the irregular rainfall is not such as would encourage agriculturists or other settlers. Except in the coast towns land is of practically no value.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Legislation during the year has been limited to the enactment of a "Sale of Poisons Ordinance," having for its object the prevention of the unrestricted sale of opium, morphia, and other poisonous drugs, the sale of which is now prohibited except under licence.

IV.—EDUCATION.

Primary Education—Main Features and Number of Schools.

There are three Government schools in the Protectorate, at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla. The pupils are children of the local Indian and Arab traders, with a few Somalis. Only the reading and writing of Arabic is taught. There is a Roman Catholic Mission and Convent at Berbera, where Somali children receive free education.

They are able to speak and read English, and some of the pupils have obtained employment under Government as clerks and telegraphists.

Beyond the efforts of the Mission there is no secondary education, and industrial schools and training colleges do not exist.

The average attendance at the various schools is as follows:—

Berbera	56
Bulhar	43
Zeyla	81

The cost of maintenance of the three schools during the year was Rs. 1,545.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

The coast town hospitals are situated at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla. These are under civil charge. Besides these general hospitals, there are at Berbera an isolation hospital, now completed, which was opened on October 22nd, for the accommodation of patients suffering from all forms of tubercular disease, and also a single ward building for the purpose of meeting epidemic contingencies. A disinfecting station has been made, consisting of two rooms and a caretaker's hut. The station is furnished with a small "Clayton" disinfector machine, capable of meeting all probable requirements.

The up-country hospitals are situated at Sheikh and Burao, respectively, and are camp hospitals only. They are under military and militia charge.

The number of cases treated in the civil hospitals was 8,526 during the year, as against 9,109 in 1905. There were eight deaths only in hospital out of 292 admissions, which compares very favourably with last year, in which there were 157 deaths in all; the percentage of deaths to those treated being ·08, as against 1·75 in 1905.

The number of in-patients was 492, showing an increase of 178 cases applying for aid for more than trivial ailments. The daily average of sick was 23·9, and there were 16 patients in hospital at the end of the year.

Berbera Hospitals.

(1.) The General Hospital consists of three wards, containing 24 beds. A dispensary, office, medical store, and subordinates' quarters, are a part of this institution. It is to be regretted that no accommodation at present exists for European patients, nor any building suitable for an emergency hospital or for nursing-home requirements.

(2.) The Isolation Hospital is situated on a hill about one and a half miles from the nearest part of the town of Berbera. It consists of buildings enclosed within an outer wall, and has been constructed, in part by repair of an old battery station, and in part by fresh construction work on old foundations. Much of the supervision of the building was under the care of the subordinate medical staff, who gave their time and services freely, after their work was done, during the many months that the building operations were in progress; these persons I now take this special opportunity of thanking for their services, which were gratefully accepted.

This hospital consists of one large ward 88 ft. 9 ins. long by 24 ft. wide and 11 ft. high; and five small wards, each 16½ ft. long by 11 ft. wide by 9½ ft. high. Besides these,

there are a kitchen and a washhouse. The accommodation arranged for at present is 40 beds, the full complement being 60. No water is at present laid on, and this is brought from town by donkey transport.

(3.) The Quarantine Station is a sandy but hard stretch of ground, on the "Spit" which runs along the outer side of the harbour, well separated from the town, and generally well adapted for the purpose. Tents are available for emergencies, and the Disinfecting Station is placed near the natural landing-point, where the camp would be pitched.

(4.) The Infectious Diseases Hospital is a thatched single-roomed structure, partially surrounded by a wall, on the eastern extremity of the town.

Bulhar Hospital.

This consists of a single ward, holding six beds, and a dispensary to which it is attached. Quarters for the resident Hospital Assistant are in course of construction near it.

Zeyla Hospital.

There are three wards, capable of holding 38 patients in all. The hospital is contained within, and forms part of, the fort. Tent accommodation alone exists to meet any infectious diseases outbreak, should one occur.

(B.) Asylums.

No proper asylum exists, but a small room within the gaol at Berbera is made use of for suspected cases occurring among the criminal classes, when it is used for keeping the suspected under observation.

(C.) Poor-houses.

There is no poor-house, but a poor fund, maintained by private subscriptions and administered by the District Officer, exists in Berbera.

(D.) Reformatories.

None. Juvenile offenders are kept at the police station, and not in the regular gaol.

(E.) Savings Bank.

None.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The following table shews the strength and distribution of police, mounted and foot, on March 31st, 1907:—

Mounted Police.

Station.	Jemadars.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.
Berbera and Bulhar	1	35
Zeyla	1	10
Total	2	45

Foot Police.

Station.	European Superintendent.	Jemadars.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.
Berbera and Bulhar ...	1	2	138
Karam and Hais	—	2	25
Zeyla	—	2	67
Total	1	6	230

The police forces of the Berbera-Bulhar, Hais, and Karam Districts are organized and disciplined by the Superintendent of Police, under the supervision and control of the District Officer, Berbera.

The total cost of police, including all salaries and personal emoluments, amounted to Rs. 75,510.

(B.) Prisons.

During the year 1,444 prisoners were convicted by the Berbera and Bulhar Courts, shewing an increase of 239 on the figures for the preceding year. Cost of prisons amounted to Rs. 12,308 4a.

Prisoners sentenced by Military or Political Courts are received in the coast gaols, but cases tried by these Courts are not included in the ordinary criminal returns.

During the year two prisoners escaped, but were re-captured.

The following table shews the number of escapes during the past three years:—

Year.	Escaped.	Recaptured.
1904-5	4	—
1905-6	9	2
1906-7	2	2
Total	15	4

The daily average of convicted prisoners in Berbera and Bulhar gaols was 173, against 150 in 1905-06.

Only one death took place amongst the prisoners during the year under report.

The Zeyla gaol is a small coral building, roofed with corrugated iron, and is under the direct supervision of the Sub-Commissioner. It has not been found possible to render the labour of prisoners remunerative. Most of the so-called political prisoners are merely detained pending the restitution of stock looted in the interior by them or by their relations, and their expenses while so detained are recovered, when possible, from their tribe. Civil prisoners are not required to labour, but are merely taken out for exercise. Their expenses while detained in prison are generally recovered from the judgment creditor at whose instance they are detained.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

Berbera and Bulhar.

There were 1,388 summary convictions in the subordinate Courts, and four convictions in the Higher Court during 1906-07.

A comparative statement of cases reported to the police at Berbera and Bulhar during the last five years is appended:—

Year.	Cases reported.	Convictions or Committals.
1902-3	630	574
1903-4	No statistics	No statistics
1904-5	991	774
1905-6	1,457	1,241
1906-7	1,569	1,392

Of the 1,569 cases reported, 966 appear under the head of "Other Offences," which include breaches of local rules and

other minor offences, leaving 603 cases to be classified as crime. In 1905-6 there were 353 cases, under the heading of "Other Offences," leaving 1,104 under "Crime." There has been, therefore, a decrease of 501 cases of crime during the year.

This is due mostly to the fact that the large number of pauper refugees driven down to the coast towns during the military expeditions have by degrees returned to the interior, where peaceable conditions again exist.

During the year under review there were two cases of murder.

A comparative statement of serious crimes is appended:—

Crime.	Convictions, 1905–06.	Convictions, 1906–07.
Rape	4	5
Murder	—	2
Robbery	180	170
Grievous hurt	15	5
Manslaughter...	1	—
Riot	—	31
Forgery	—	2
Total	200	215

The convictions in the Protectorate Court and the District Courts for the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	Protectorate Court.	District Court.
1902-3	5	569
1903–4	No statistics	No statistics
1904–5	2	772
1905–6	3	1,225
1906–7	4	1,388

Of the four convictions in the Protectorate Court, two were for murder, one for rape, and the other for smuggling.

The Protectorate Court returns shew cases tried before His Majesty's Commissioner, and the District Court figures represent cases tried in the District and subordinate Courts of Berbera and Bulhar.

Zeyla.

Criminal statistics shew 79 cases tried by the Sub-Commissioner during the year under report. 131 persons were convicted.

There was one appeal against the decision of the Zeyla Court, which was rejected by the Protectorate Court.

As a matter of fact there is no criminal population in Zeyla; most of the offences committed are not of a serious character, being chiefly assaults and petty thefts.

Bad characters from Djibouti and from Berbera turn up occasionally.

Of the 79 cases tried, 56 were for serious crime, as detailed below: —

Crime.	Committals.
Affray	15
Assault	29
Intimidation	4
Rape	1
Theft	2
Contempt of lawful authority...	3
Unlawful assembly	1
Smuggling	1
	56

and 23 were classified as "Other Petty Offences."

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

Return of the statistics of population for the year:—

—	Europeans and Whites.	Somalis.	Indians.	Chinese and Malay.	Mixed and Coloured.	—
Number of inhabitants in 1905.	55	300,000	200	—	100	Approximate.
Births, 1906	—	—	—	—	—	Unknown.
Deaths, 1906	—	—	—	—	—	Unknown.
Immigrants, 1906 ..	10	4,183	—	—	—	
Emigrants, 1906 ..	—	4,183	—	—	—	
Inhabitants, 1906	65	300,000	200	—	100	
Increase	10	—	—	—	—	
Decrease	—	—	—	—	—	

Population.

The population, owing to the quiet which has existed during the last two years, is probably on the increase, though the outbreak of small-pox in 1904-5 rendered any increase during 1904 at least problematical.

Birth Rate.

No actual figures are known, but an estimate taken at the coast towns shews that this is 10 per cent. among the married women.

Death Rates.

No records are available.

(B.) Public Health.

The general public health of the native population in the Protectorate has been good. Among the Europeans, however, a rather severe epidemic occurred in the spring of remittent malarial fever, which, although no deaths occurred, was sufficiently severe to temporarily necessitate a general exodus from Berbera of nearly the whole of the European community to a healthier location in the interior.

As regards the table of diseases it should be borne in mind that there exists a great difference between the winter and summer numbers of the population on the coast. There are some 3,000 to 4,000 Somalis in Berbera during the summer months, while during the winter months the population mounts up to 20,000 to 30,000.

The periods when sickness is chiefly prevalent are the spring and autumn, in consequence chiefly of the lack of wool clothing among the natives, who use cotton almost exclusively.

A considerable amount of care is called for in preventing the importation of infectious diseases, both from the interior of Africa generally and Abyssinia in particular, as well as from the rice ports of India and the date-exporting centres along the Persian Gulf. The absolute disregard of the Somalis for disease, coupled with their universal practice of travelling to some fresh locality when attacked by illness, increases the risks to an enormous extent. Neurasthenia, general debility, and slight intermittent malarial fever are the chief European ailments. Among the natives, ulcers on the legs, scurvy, and diseases of the digestive system predominate. In spite of the high temperature, insolation is practically unknown, even on the coast. There were no cases of plague, and only two cases of small-pox during the year, these cases coming from the interior.

Malarial Fever.

As reported at the end of last year, the sequence to the increase of malaria, then drawn attention to, has marked the year 1906 by an outbreak of remittent fever among the European staff on the coast. The sources of the origin were persons arriving from East Africa and Burma; both of these parties seem to have caused an infection. This year there have been 539 cases as against 117 in 1905 and nine cases only in 1904. The matter is serious, and is likely to be more so unless the public works in connection with the removal of insanitary buildings and of old concealed cess pits and drains can be pushed forward. No natural breeding grounds exist for mosquitoes, and no malaria should occur if rudimentary precautions with regard to vegetation and drainage were adopted, as was pointed out in 1905.

Dysentery.

The number of cases was 62 for the year, as against 117 last year; the cases were fortunately all of a mild type.

Malignant and Non-malignant growths.

No cases of malignant growth, or suspected malignancy, were reported, and only two cases of benign growths, these being mycetomata.

Diseases of the Skin.

Scabies and ulcers are responsible for the vast majority of these cases, while during the summer months there are usually a fair proportion of patients with boils, due to the quantity of sand in the atmosphere at the time when they are most debilitated by the excessive heat.

Phthisis.

No cases came under treatment, as against 36 last year. As then stated, this by no means gives the probable estimate of the general prevalence, and indications exist that it is pretty widespread throughout the country.

Vaccinations.

The number of vaccinations performed during the year was 228 only. The considerable decrease from 1,650 in 1905 was occasioned by the lack of funds. Of the cases under treatment, 112 vaccinations were successful.

(C.) Sanitation.

The General Sanitary Condition of the Protectorate and Chief Towns.

The dry condition of the climate is the chief factor that prevents serious outbreaks. As regards the coast towns, both the buildings and drainage systems are defective in many particulars.

Berbera.

This, the chief town, alone has a water service, which comes in pipes from springs some nine miles away, where the water issues from a rock channel at about 100° F. An excess of chlorides is the chief impurity.

The drainage system is by superficial and indifferently constructed stone channels, either open or roofed over, both of which types are to be condemned. A dry-earth closet system is used for the European quarters, which is satisfactory. An extension of the garden area and the planting of shrubs and trees which is being carried out round many of the houses does not commend itself from a safety point of view. Overcrowding is unknown, owing to the temporary nature of the native dwellings, which consist of mat shelters, which are transported from place to place by camels.

Bulhar and Zeyla.

These towns are supplied by brackish wells, mostly at a distance from the towns themselves. The water is liable to produce symptoms of diarrhœa for several weeks among those unaccustomed to the impurities of salt and sand with which it is laden. The houses and drainage are greatly in need of attention.

Inland Posts.

Posts at Sheikh, Burao, and Ber have all a fair, but limited, water supply. No permanent dwellings exist.

(D.) CLIMATE.

The climate of the Somaliland Protectorate is a naturally dry and uniform one. Both the diurnal variations, as well as the changes of the seasons, maintain a regularity of mean variation that is inconsiderable.

There are two distinct seasons, briefly described as the hot and the cool, which correspond with the summer and winter seasons of Europe in their times. They are determined in the main by the monsoon changes.

During the hot months, from May to September, the coast becomes almost true desert, being completely dried up, the rainfall being negligible in quantity.

Temperature.

Two ranges of temperature only are markedly appreciable, and these maintain a pretty uniform relation, the one to the other. These two ranges are the coast level, and the highland. The first holds good for all the country for nearly a fifty-mile deep belt from the coast to the hills, the second or highland being that of the interior generally, and differing little from the former in diurnal changes if read 10° F. lower.

The extremes of temperatures recorded at Berbera were:—Lowest (shade maximum) 62°, occurring in January; highest (shade maximum 114°, on July 1st. The mean temperature was 82·8° F. at Berbera, and the daily range 15° F.

Rainfall.

The rainfall throughout the country is almost exclusively confined to the cool season. The total fall for the year, as registered at Berbera, was 7·02 inches.

Direction and Force of Wind.

The direction of the wind is from the north-east during the months of November, December, January, and February, and in some seasons during March and October. During April, May, June, July, and August the prevailing wind is south-west, and often of great strength.

Solar Radiation.

The mean for the year was 120, and a maximum of 135 was obtained on August 23rd.

Abnormal Phenomena.

No abnormal phenomena were recorded as having occurred.

VIII.—GENERAL.

Return of game animals killed under licence during the year ending December 31st, 1906:—

Animal.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Lion	3	—	3
Leopard	5	4	9
Cheetah	3	2	5
Greater Kudu	12	—	12
Lesser Kudu	8	—	8
Oryx	15	7	22
Waller's Gazelle	44	2	46
Hartebeeste	25	4	29
Clarke's Gazelle	12	1	13
Soemmering's Gazelle ...	71	10	81
Speke's Gazelle	60	8	68
Dik Dik	57	17	74
Klipspringer	3	1	4
Wart Hog	7	1	8
Beira	1	—	1

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
512	Southern Nigeria	1905
513	Basutoland	1905–1906
514	British Guiana	,,
515	British Honduras	1905
516	Northern Nigeria	1905–1906
517	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
518	Leeward Islands	,,
519	East Africa Protectorate	,,
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	,,
522	Falkland Islands	,,
523	Ashanti...	,,
524	Jamaica	1905–1906
525	Uganda...	,,
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	,,
528	Bermuda	,,
529	Gibraltar	,,
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
531	Sierra Leone	,,
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906–1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	,,
535	Malta	1906–1907
536	Gambia...	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906–1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
539	Leeward Islands	,,
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis ...	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904–5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate ...	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 586.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1907-8.

(For Report for 1906-7, *see* No. 542.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1908.

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No. 586.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE.

(For Report for 1906–7, *see* No. 542.)

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Commissioner's Office,
Camp Hargaisa,
25th August, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Somaliland Protectorate for the year ended the 31st of March, 1908.

I have, &c.,

H. E. S. CORDEAUX.

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

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REPORT ON THE SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1907-8.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

The Revenue for the year under review, amounting as it does to only £28,607, is some £6,815 below the estimated amount of £35,422, and is the lowest amount collected since 1902-03.

The figures for the last six years are appended for comparison:—

	Revenue collected. £
1902-1903	24,968
1903-1904	39,842
1904-1905	35,188
1905-1906	39,477
1906-1907	38,388
1907-1908	28,607

There is very little doubt that the financial crisis in the United States is, to some extent at least, responsible for the falling off in trade in Somaliland.

The principal shortage in Revenue is under the heads of Customs and Post Office.

Customs.

Here the amount realised fell short of the estimate by £6,618, import duty showing an approximate shortage of £4,800 and export duty one of £1,800.

Imports of American grey sheeting, rice, dates, and European white long-cloth fell off very considerably during the year when compared with former years. The partial failure of the grain crop in India and the consequent high cost of rice deterred natives, especially the Ogaden and other southern tribes, from bringing their produce, skins and ghee chiefly, to the coast towns. Whether they still hold their stocks of skins pending a rise in prices and a fall in the cost of imported rice, or whether they disposed of the same at places outside the British sphere of influence cannot, at the date of writing, be determined. That the prices obtainable for goat and sheep skins, the principal articles of export, must shortly show an improvement is virtually certain and Customs Revenue for the current year (1908-1909) should be quite up to the average. It must not be forgotten, however, that prices of skins, for

which the United States of America is the principal market, were somewhat inflated previous to the commencement of the year under review, and unless there is a considerable boom when the reaction in the American market sets in, these prices will possibly not be realised again. The Somali trader, while keen to take advantage of the prices obtainable in a rising market, fails to appreciate the laws of supply and demand when the market is falling. For instance, if in one year he has obtained top prices for his produce, he expects similar prices next year, when possibly the demand is much smaller. If the price obtainable is much below that of the former year he may either elect to sell only just sufficient to enable him to obtain the bare necessities of life, keeping the remainder in anticipation of better times, or he may endeavour to obtain more favourable terms elsewhere. Rice and dates (the former imported from India and the latter from Arabia) constitute the favourite food of the Somali, but he can do without these, substituting a diet of jowari (millet)—largely grown in Abyssinia and on which no Custom revenue can be collected by the Protectorate if purchased by the natives direct—meat, and milk.

There is no doubt that in the year under review the Somalis from the interior, especially, as before mentioned, the southern tribes living on the fringe of the sphere of British influence on whom the trade of the country almost solely depends, have substituted jowari for rice, for a time at least. This should fully explain the shortage in revenue from imports and exports.

Post Office.

There is also a shortage in Revenue compared with the Estimates under "Post Office" amounting to £633, or as compared with the figures for 1906-1907 of £1,454. It is hardly fair to compare the revenue from this source collected in 1907-1908 with that collected in the previous year, as in 1906-1907 comparatively large sales of obsolete stamps were made, but there was no inflation of Revenue in 1907-1908 from this somewhat unforeseen source. The revenue collected during 1907-1908 may be properly considered as the legitimate earnings of the Post Office.

Comparing the total revenue collected in 1907-1908 with that collected in 1906-1907 there is a difference of £9.721, but it must be remembered that the revenue in 1906-1907 was swelled by such items as the following, which are really not recurring:—

Sale of obsolete stamps.
Recovery of exchange on drafts to meet War Office expenditure.
Interest on large accumulated balances on deposit.
Deposits unclaimed for over five years written off to Revenue.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure in 1907-1908 was £105,200 16*s.* 3*d.*, or £1,903 less than that in the previous year, 1906-1907, notwithstanding the inclusion of certain items amounting to £4,813, which were the outcome of the expedition of 1902-1904, and which had been in abeyance during the intervening years.

Owing to the reclassification of the heads of expenditure, a comparison between the totals under each head would not be very instructive.

The organization of a Political Administration caused a new head of expenditure to appear in the Estimates. The cost of this Department for the year was estimated at £16,659, this expenditure being met by a corresponding reduction under Military.

Assets and Liabilities.

The total assets on 1st April, 1908, were £25,016 7*s.* 2*d.*, as against £67,460 13*s.* 4*d.* on 1st April, 1907. The liabilities were £11,174 18*s.* 2*d.*, showing a surplus of assets over liabilities of £13,841 9*s.* 0*d.*

Currency.

The currency of the Somaliland Protectorate is based on the Indian rupee. Government of India notes are accepted amongst the merchants of the coastal towns; so also is the British sovereign.

The reserve of gold mentioned in the report for 1905-1906 has gradually diminished.

The subsidiary coins in circulation are:—

Silver—Half rupee.
„ Quarter rupee.
„ One-eighth rupee.
Nickel—One anna.
Copper—Half anna.
„ Quarter anna.
„ One-twelfth anna.

There are no banks doing business in the Protectorate.

Municipal.

A municipal fund only exists in Berbera. Revenue controlled by the District Officer, Berbera, is obtained from the following sources:—

1. Sweeping and hut tax.
2. Fines.

The tax is paid by everyone who has a house or hut in the town of Berbera, and the fines are collected from people committing offences against sanitary regulations.

The tax is only levied at Berbera, but fines are inflicted both at Bulhar and Zaila.

The establishment maintained is as follows:—

1 Tax Collector at Rs. 30 per mensem.
1 Mucadum at Rs. 27 per mensem.
16 Sweepers at Rs. 16, 15, and 12 per mensem.
5 Watchmen at Rs. 12 per mensem.

Revenue during 1907-1908 amounted to Rs. 8,204 11*a.* 3*p.*, an increase of Rs. 324 4*a.* 3*p.* on last year. There was a decrease of Rs. 1,462 1*a.* 10*p.* in expenditure.

A comparative statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years is shown below:—

—	1903–4.	1904–5.	1905–6.	1906–7.	1907–8.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue	5,810	5,957	7,275	7,880	8,205
Expenditure	4,044	4,457	8,040	6,912	5,450

There is no municipality in Zaila. The town is kept clean by the Government sweepers, who are paid by the Administration.

There are 9 sweepers, 1 mucadum, and 1 lamp-lighter, who cost altogether Rs. 2,211 8*a.* 1*p.*

Debts of the Municipalities.

The municipalities have no debts.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

The annual value of trade of the British Somaliland Protectorate for the last five years was:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1903–4	56,21,817	29,95,483	86,17,300
1904–5	44,81,072	28,61,369	73,42,441
1905–6	39,27,414	30,40,980	69,68,394
1906–7	41,68,329	31,80,885	73,49,214
1907–8	33,49,200	30,07,557	63,56,757

Imports.

The value of the imports for the year 1907-08, including specie (Rs. 1,49,384), was Rs. 34,98,584.

The value of imports and specie imported into each port during the year 1907-1908 was:—

Value of imports:—

	Rs.	Rs.
Berbera	20,45,250	
Bulhar	5,56,700	
Hais	72,485	
Karam	20,538	
Zaila	6,54,227	
		33,49,200
Value of specie—		
Berbera	34,787	
Bulhar	16,749	
Zaila	97,848	
		1,49,384
Total		34,98,584

Remarks on Imports.

Cotton Goods.

The year's imports show a decrease in the value of European white long-cloth to the value of Rs. 23,559, which is to be attributed mainly to the general depression of the skin market in sympathy with American and other foreign markets, combined with an unfavourable breeding season.

The decrease of Rs. 5,44,689 in the value of American grey shirting imported, though due partly to the above cause, is to be accounted for, mainly, by the removal of the enhanced railway freights on goods carried to Abyssinia viâ Djibouti, which led to the temporary diversion of the trade to Zaila. A superficial increase of Rs. 20,456 in the import of other cotton pieces is due to Government importation mainly.

Other Textiles.

The silk trade among the Somalis is practically nil, and among alien tribes very limited. The decrease to the value of Rs. 2,579 of silk imported reveals the absence of Abyssinian demand.

Grain, Flour, and Dates.

Rice shows a decrease of Rs. 5,33,124. Scarcity of labour, failure of pasturages, the abnormal rise of the price of grain in India, and the general financial commotion in

America, with its resultant depression of the skin market on the Continent, forced Somalis to remain contented with cheaper jowari and ready-made cheap bread prepared of wheatmeal or jowari. Contrary to expectation jowari and other kinds of grain instead of showing an increase, have decreased; the former to the extent of Rs. 24,141, and the latter to the considerable amount of Rs. 139,403.

A very prosperous jowari crop in Abyssinia during the year 1907-1908 caused a fall in the import grain trade, as it rendered purchases of these commodities unnecessary for Harrar traders.

The gradually growing tendency of Somalis to make a more liberal use of cheaper ready-made breads chiefly prepared of wheatmeal resulted in a small increase of Rs. 7,491 in the imports of such breadstuffs.

The date trade has declined to the extent of Rs. 51,808. The meagre prices offered by local merchants resulted in a short supply by the diversion of Persian Gulf dhows to other ports outside the Protectorate. This led to higher prices, which reduced consumption.

Imports of food supplies as a whole fluctuate with rainfall, or with the realisations from the skin trade. The sharp decline of the latter, together with scarcity of rain, naturally resulted in the decrease of imported food.

Provisions.

Imports of sugar, due to its growing use among natives, have increased by Rs. 14,855, and an increase is shown under European stores and tea of Rs. 11,466.

Increases also appear as under:—

	Rs.
Animals, living	2,957
Arms and ammunition	28,343
Building material	26,381
Drugs	1,809
Furniture	9,580
Leather manufactures	10,258
Machinery and parts thereof	18,007
Malt liquors, wines, and spirits ...	5,516
Metals: Iron and steelware, including cutlery and nails	55,275
Oil, lamp, petroleum	1,043
Tobacco, manufactured and unmanufactured	4,626
Miscellaneous	68,604

The increased importation of building materials, machinery and parts thereof, and metals, is mainly due to the recent

inauguration of the Fibre Company in the Protectorate. Government, too, is responsible for part of the increase in these items as well as for the increased importation of animals (living), arms and ammunition, leather manufactures, furniture and miscellaneous.

Specie imported, which shows a large increase, was mostly dollar currency destined for use in Abyssinia.

Exports.

In 1907-1908 the value of exports amounted to Rs. 32,35,618, distributed as follows:—

Exports.	Value. Rs.
Somaliland produce	29,95,172
Imports re-exported	12,390
Specie	2,28,061
Total	32,35,618

Remarks on Exports.

Exports, other than specie, show a decrease during the year of Rs. 1,73,278 on the figures for 1906-1907. Among the more noticeable items are the following:—

	Rs.
Animals (living); sheep, goats, camels, and oxen	8,245
Ghee (clarified butter)	86,765
Coffee, raw	37,569
Hides, oxen and unenumerated ...	23,507
Precious stones, unset pearls	11,837
Saffron	2,518
Salt	2,625
Skins, sheep and goats', and unenumerated, dressed and undressed ...	88,221
Beeswax	3,492
Miscellaneous	9,096

The decreased export of coffee, saffron, and beeswax was due to the reversion of trade from Zaila to Djibouti, which was due to the removal of the 10 per cent. increase of the railway rates. Short supply of milk owing to the unfavourable breeding season, general good condition of cattle, the fall of prices ruling in foreign pearl markets, and the temporary decline of the skin trade are the causes for the general decrease.

Increased exports are shown as under:—

	Rs.
Animals (living); sheep and goats, horses and other kinds	32,405
Bones	1,780
Feathers, ornamental, ostrich	6,849
Fibre	2,315
Fish, cured and salted	9,755
Gum; myrrh, arabic and unenumerated	5,382
Ivory, teeth, elephants	10,457
Manure, guano	13,956

and specie.

An unfavourable breeding season and a very bad year directed the attention of nomads to home industries such as gum-picking, charcoal-making, feather-collecting, and fibre-extracting. The general depression could not but be without its effects on merchants trading on a large scale, and they tried for exchange on a larger scale than usual. The natives carrying on trade with the merchants outside the sphere of British influence helped in the increase of ivory.

(C.) Shipping.

The shipping returns for the British Somaliland Protectorate show a decrease of 657 vessels and 38,041 tons:—

	1905–1906.		1906–1907.		1907–1908.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	2,154	75,593	2,246	83,621	1,918	65,533
Cleared	2,152	75,411	2,245	84,458	1,916	64,505
Total ...	4,306	151,004	4,491	168,079	3,834	130,038

During these times of famine and scarcity competitive coasting steamers made fewer calls than they would have done in ordinary or prosperous times, the decrease of steamships entering and clearing being represented by 128 in number and 29,586 in tonnage. The resultant dwindling of trade carried by sailing vessels decreased the country crafts shipping and tonnage at Bulhar and Hais, the difference between 1906-1907 and 1907-1908 being 3,869 and 3,340 in number and 62,301 and 53,846 in tonnage, respectively.

The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered and cleared during the year 1907-1908 was:—

	Steamers.		Sailing vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Berbera—						
Entered	130	24,419	484	10,565	614	34,984
Cleared	130	24,419	482	9,537	612	33,956
Total ...	260	48,838	966	20,102	1,226	68,940
Bulhar—						
Entered	59	6,982	446	6,450	505	13,432
Cleared	59	6,982	446	6,450	505	13,432
Total ...	118	13,864	892	12,900	1,010	26,864
Hais—						
Entered	—	—	134	4,116	134	4,116
Cleared	—	—	134	4,116	134	4,116
Total ...	—	—	268	8,232	268	8,232
Zaila—						
Entered	58	6,695	607	6,306	665	13,001
Cleared	58	6,695	607	6,306	665	13,001
Total ...	116	13,390	1,214	12,612	1,330	26,002

The nationality of vessels entered and cleared during 1907-1908 for the British Somaliland Protectorate is made up thus:—

Nationality.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	1,497	54,568	1,498	54,456
French	13	946	12	791
Italian	28	568	28	568
Turkish	5	1,105	4	999
Arab	374	3,237	373	7,582
Persian	1	109	1	109

(D.) Harbour Dues.

The total harbour dues collected at the port of Berbera during the year 1907-1908 are shown under the different headings:—

	Amount. Rs.
Port dues or tonnage dues	1,340
Licence and monthly fees for passenger boats	169
Licence and monthly fees for cargo boats	828
Total	2,337
Total collection for 1906-07	3,006
Decrease	669

(E.) Inland Trade.

The value of the inland trade registered at Berbera and Bulhar Zaribas for 1907-1908 was:—

	Amount Rs.
Berbera	15,79,249
Bulhar	12,71,766
Total value	28,51,015

Registration Fees.

The total revenue derived from registration fees in the Protectorate during the year 1907-1908 was collected as under:—

	Amount. Rs.
Berbera, Bulhar, and Hais:—	
Registration fees	16
Miscellaneous fees	23
Zaila, Registration fees	50
	89

Fees charged under Merchant Shipping Regulations, 1907-1908:—

	Rs.
Berbera—Bills of health	623
Other, miscellaneous	11
Total	634

Fees collected for fire-arms registration and stamping at Berbera for the year 1907-1908:—

	Amount. Rs.
Registration and stamping fees	12
Total	12

Fees charged for water supply 1907-1908:—

	Amount. Rs.
Water supply	33
Total	33

Statement of Customs collection in the Protectorate for the year 1907-1908, compared with the year 1906-1907:—

—	Imports.	Exports.	Zariba.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Refunds.	Balance.
1906-7.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Berbera and Bulhar	2,01,655	1,43,314	33,349	4,085*	3,82,403	13	3,82,390
Zaila	39,122	19,124	—	755†	59,001	—	59,001
Hais and Karam ..	7,336	5,896	—	75	13,307	—	13,307
Total	2,48,113	1,68,334	33,349	4,915	4,54,698	13	4,54,698
1907-8.							
Berbera and Bulhar	1,50,137	1,34,144	33,307	3,521‡	3,22,109	—	—
Zaila	23,048	16,031	—	432§	39,511	—	39,511
Hais and Karam ..	6,781	7,680	—	74	14,535	—	14,535
Total	1,79,966	1,57,855	34,307	4,027	3,76,155	—	—
Increase ..	—	—	958	—	—	—	—
Decrease ..	68,147	10,479	—	888	78,556	—	—

* Port dues Rs. 2,684, registration of vessels Rs. 427, and other receipts Rs. 974.
† Registration of vessels Rs. 314, and other receipts Rs. 441.
‡ Port dues Rs. 3,502, registration of vessels Rs. 17, and other receipts Rs. 1,002.
§ Registration of vessels Rs. 50, and other receipts Rs. 382.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF THE VALUE OF THE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS IN THE SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE, CLASSIFIED BY GROUPS USED IN THE TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Summary Statement of the value of the Imports and Exports trade returns of the

——	Imports.			Exports.		
				Domestic Produce.		
	From British Possessions.	From Foreign Countries.	Total.	To British Possessions.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco.						
A. Grain and flour	82,388	164	82,552	—	—	—
B. Meat, including animals for food	74	61	135	35,019	385	35,404
C. Other food and drink—						
(1) Non-dutiable	—	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Dutiable	36,588	8,250	44,838	16,921	3,185	20,106
D. Tobacco	2,495	2	2,497	—	—	—
Total Class I.	121,545	8,477	130,022	51,940	3,570	55,510
II.—Raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured.						
A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel	—	—	—	—	—	—
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel	—	—	—	—	—	—
C. Other metallic ores	—	—	—	—	—	—
D. Wood and timber	—	—	—	260	22	282
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	—	—	—	—	—	—
G. Other textile materials	3	—	3	—	—	—
H. Oil seeds, nuts, oil fat, and gum	1,692	—	1,692	7,962	18	7,980
I. Hides and undressed skins	—	—	—	123,064	1	123,065
J. Materials for paper-making	—	—	—	—	—	—
K. Miscellaneous	—	—	—	9,629	141	9,770
Total Class II.	1,695	—	1,695	140,915	182	141,097
III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.						
A. Iron and steel, manufactures thereof	3,915	—	3,915	—	—	—
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	16	—	16	—	—	—
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments.	159	—	159	—	—	—
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus	—	—	—	—	—	—
E. Machinery	1,261	—	1,261	—	—	—
F. Ships (new)	—	—	—	—	—	—
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture).	3,160	161	3,321	—	—	—
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—						
(1) Cotton	59,034	647	59,681	—	—	—
(2) Wool	496	—	496	—	—	—
(3) Other material	213	—	213	—	—	—
I. Apparel	941	—	941	—	—	—
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, and colours	555	3	558	—	—	—
K. Leather, and manufactures thereof (including boots, and shoes, and gloves).	894	—	894	—	—	—
L. Earthenware and glass	489	110	599	—	—	—
M. Paper	—	—	—	—	—	—
N. Miscellaneous	2,058	—	2,058	—	—	—
Total Class III.	73,191	921	74,112	—	—	—
IV.—Miscellaneous and unclassified (including Parcel Post).						
Miscellaneous	16,405	1,046	17,451	1,920	1,150	3,070
Total Class IV.	16,405	1,046	17,451	1,920	1,150	3,070
V.—Bullion and specie.						
Bullion and specie	9,030	929	9,959	13,293	1,911	15,204
Total Class V.	9,030	929	9,959	13,293	1,911	15,204
Grand Total	221,866	11,373	233,239	208,068	6,813	214,881

in the Somaliland Protectorate classified by Groups used in the United Kingdom.

Exports—*continued.*						
Other than Domestic.			Total Exports.			
To British Possessions.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.	To British Possessions.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.	—
£	£	£	£	£	£	
						I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco.
—	—	—	—	—	—	A. Grain and flour.
—	—	—	35,019	385	35,404	B. Meat, including animals for food.
—	—	—	—	—	—	C. Other food and drink—
—	—	—	16,921	3,185	20,106	(1) Non-dutiable.
—	—	—	—	—	—	(2) Dutiable.
						D. Tobacco.
—	—	—	51,940	3,570	55,510	Total Class I.
						II.—Raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured.
—	—	—	—	—	—	A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel.
—	—	—	—	—	—	B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel.
—	—	—	—	—	—	C. Other metallic ores.
—	—	—	260	22	282	D. Wood and timber.
—	—	—	—	—	—	E. Cotton.
—	—	—	—	—	—	F. Wool.
—	—	—	—	—	—	G. Other textile materials.
—	—	—	7,962	18	7,980	H. Oil seeds, nuts, oil, fat and gum.
—	—	—	123,064	1	123,065	I. Hides and undressed skins.
—	—	—	—	—	—	J. Materials for paper-making.
—	—	—	9,629	141	9,770	K. Miscellaneous.
—	—	—	140,915	182	141,097	Total Class II.
						III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.
—	—	—	—	—	—	A. Iron and steel, manufactures thereof.
—	—	—	—	—	—	B. Other metals and manufacture thereof.
—	—	—	—	—	—	C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments.
—	—	—	—	—	—	D. Telegraph cables and apparatus.
—	—	—	—	—	—	E. Machinery.
—	—	—	—	—	—	F. Ships (new).
—	—	—	—	—	—	G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture).
						H. Yarns and textile fabrics—
—	—	—	—	—	—	(1) Cotton.
—	—	—	—	—	—	(2) Wool.
—	—	—	—	—	—	(3) Other material.
—	—	—	—	—	—	I. Apparel.
—	—	—	—	—	—	J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, and colours.
—	—	—	—	—	—	K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves).
—	—	—	—	—	—	L. Earthenware and glass.
—	—	—	—	—	—	M. Paper.
—	—	—	—	—	—	N. Miscellaneous.
—	—	—	—	—	—	Total Class III.
						IV.—Miscellaneous and unclassified (including Parcel Post).
730	96	826	2,650	1,246	3,896	Miscellaneous.
730	96	826	2,650	1,246	3,896	Total Class IV.
						V.—Bullion and specie.
—	—	—	13,293	1,911	15,204	Bullion and specie.
—	—	—	13,293	1,911	15,204	Total Class V.
730	96	826	208,798	6,909	215,707	Grand Total.

(F.) Land Grants.

No grants of land have been made during the year under report. Owing to the dry and arid nature of the soil and the irregular rainfall the Protectorate is generally unsuited to agriculture.

III.—LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were enacted during the year under report:—

"The Berbera and Bulhar Ports Ordinance, 1907."
"The Somaliland Game Preservation Ordinance, 1907."
"The Fees and Royalties Ordinance, 1907."
"The Customs Amendment Ordinance, 1907."
"The Zariba Dues Ordinance, 1907."
"The Berbera and Bulhar Ports Amendment Ordinance, 1908."
"The Foreign Deserters Ordinance, 1908."

IV.—EDUCATION.

Primary Education—Main Features and Number of Schools.

There are three Government Schools in the Protectorate, at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zaila. The pupils are children of the local Indian and Arab traders, with a few Somalis. Only Arabic is taught. There is a Roman Catholic Mission and Convent at Berbera, where Somali children receive a free education.

The children are taught to speak, read, and write English, and some of the pupils have obtained employment under Government as clerks and telegraphists.

Except for the instruction given by the Head of the Mission there is no secondary education, and industrial schools and training colleges do not exist.

The average attendance at the various schools is as follows:—

Berbera	71
Bulhar	34
Zaila	74

Cost of upkeep during the year is Rs. 1,551 12*a*. 0*p*.

At Zaila the average attendance of boys in the school is 32. The school is maintained by the Government and costs Rs. 750 per annum.

No serious attempt whatever has yet been made in Zaila to educate the natives. An Arab schoolmaster teaches the children to repeat the Koran in Arabic.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

The three principal towns on the coast, namely. Berbera, Bulhar, and Zaila, are each supplied with a General Hospital under civil charge. Besides these General Hospitals there is at the chief town of Berbera an Isolation Hospital, opened in October, 1906, for tubercular disease. Also there is a single-ward building, for the accommodation of patients suffering from smallpox. A disinfecting station has been available to meet contingencies. The station consists of two rooms and a caretaker's hut; it is furnished with a small "Clayton" disinfector, capable of meeting all probable requirements.

The up-country hospitals are situated at Sheikh and Burao, respectively, and are of the nature of camp hospitals only. At the former place a civil as well as a military hospital exists, but this also is of the camp hospital type. A more permament iron structure, capable of accommodating twenty beds, would more nearly meet the requirements of the station.

Sites have in the year been viewed, with the object of determining on a suitable spot for the establishment of a sanatorium in the higher country beyond the coast belt, where a water-supply would be available. Considerable difficulties would, however, have to be encountered in establishing more than a tent accommodation, as both the primary cost and upkeep of any building would have to be considered. An up-country sanatorium is not required in the winter months, as the coast climate is, at that time, neither excessively hot nor unsuited for sick persons generally.

The number of cases treated in the civil coast hospitals during the year was 10,458, as against 8,526 during the year 1906.

The daily average attendance of sick was 28, not including the old cases.

The number of indoor patients was 579, as against 492 admissions in 1906. There were 17 deaths in hospital, giving a percentage of 3·40 of deaths to those treated.

Berbera Hospitals.

The General Hospital consists of three wards, containing in all 42 beds, viz., a general ward, a police and prisoners' ward, and a female ward. A dispensary office, medical store, and subordinate quarters, with an outlying mortuary, complete this institution. The hospital was built about the year 1886, and is in a fair state of repair.

The Isolation Hospital.—This contains one large ward, and five small ones, with a kitchen and washhouse. The hospital, which is situated on a hill about a mile and a half from Berbera, is surrounded by an outer wall, which encloses the buildings, with some open-air terraces. The accommodation at present is for 40 beds, the full complement being 60. Water is conveyed by donkey transport from Berbera. This hospital, which was opened about two years ago, is at present used for the treatment of tubercular diseases exclusively. Very gratifying results have been obtained, with limited resources; out of 39 admissions during the year, 23 were cured, 2 were discharged, 3 remain at the end of the year, and 11 only died. No case was admitted except the most advanced and debilitated of those applying, as the funds available for treatment and attendance of a larger number were not available. A considerable factor in the good results obtained has been, no doubt, the high and dry site and the barren rock on which the hospital is built, which offers no suitable ground for the tubercle bacillus. Tuberculin Koch R. has proved highly satisfactory in those cases which have been treated with it at the hospital, though less successful with outside patients.

The quarantine station is situated on a hard sandy area of ground on the "spit" which runs along the outer side of the harbour, is well separated from the town, and generally well adapted for the purpose. Tents are available for emergencies and the disinfecting station is placed near the natural landing point where the camp would be pitched.

The Infectious Diseases Hospital is a single structure, partially surrounded by a wall, on the south-eastern extremity of the town. The thatched roof has been blown away and the structure is not in a good state of repair.

Bulhar Hospital.

This consists of a single ward holding six beds, and a dispensary to which it is attached. Quarters have during the year been erected close by for the hospital assistant in charge, together with latrine accommodation, which was badly needed. The hospital, which is constructed of reeds and plaster, is the chosen abode of large numbers of scorpions, owing to the nature of its construction, and might with advantage be rebuilt were funds available.

Zaila Hospital.

This hospital consists of three wards, capable of accommodating 38 patients in all. The hospital forms part of the fort at Zaila. The room space is sufficient, but the actual site is unsuitable for a hospital and a separate building on the sea frontage, between the Residency and the Customs, would be an advantage, if such a building could be secured. Tents are held in reserve at this hospital to meet any infectious outbreak, should one occur.

(B.) Other Institutions.

No proper asylum exists, but a small room at the gaol in Berbera is made use of for the purpose of watching any case of insanity occurring among the criminal classes. There is no poor-house, but a poor fund, maintained by private subscriptions and administered by the District Officer, exists in Berbera.

There is no reformatory, but juvenile offenders are kept at the police station, and not in the regular gaol. There is no savings bank.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The following table shows the strength and distribution of police, mounted and foot, on March 31st, 1908:—

Foot Police.

Station.	Superintendent of Police.	Jemadars	Non-commissioned officers and men.
Berbera and Bulhar	1	3	137
Karam and Hais ...	—	1	25
Total ...	1	4	162

Mounted Police.

Berbera and Bulhar	—	1	35

The police force of the Berbera, Bulhar, Hais, and Karam Districts, is under the District Officer, Berbera, to whom the Superintendent of Police is responsible. The whole cost of police including all salaries and personal emoluments amounted to Rs. 55,722 3*a*. 3*p*.

The cost of the prison amounted to Rs. 11,826 5*a*. 7*p*.

(B.) Prisons.

During the year 1,465 prisoners were convicted by the Berbera and Bulhar courts; this is an increase of 21 on the preceding year. Prisoners sentenced by military or political courts are kept in the coast gaols to serve their sentences, but cases tried by these courts are not included in the ordinary criminal returns.

During the year two prisoners escaped and were not re-captured.

The following table shows the number of escapes during the past three years:—

Year.	Escapes.	Re-captures.
1905-6	9	2
1906-7	2	2
1907-8	2	—

The daily average of convicted prisoners in Berbera and Bulhar gaols was 170, against 173 in 1906-7.

Only one death took place amongst prisoners during the year under report.

The Zaila gaol is a small coral building roofed with tin and is under the direct supervision of the Sub-Commissioner.

It has not been found possible to render the labour of prisoners remunerative. Most of the so-called political prisoners are merely detained pending the restitution of animals looted by them or by their relations, and their expenses while so detained are recovered, when possible, from their tribe. Civil prisoners are not required to labour, but are merely taken out for exercise; their expenses while detained in prison are generally recovered from the judgment creditor at whose instance they are detained.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

There were 1,198 summary convictions in the subordinate court and 3 convictions in the higher court during 1907-8.

A comparative statement of cases reported taken at the Berbera and Bulhar Courts during the last 5 years is appended:—

Year.	Cases reported	Convictions or Committals.
1903-4	No statistics available.	
1904-5	991 ...	774
1905-6	1,457 ...	1,241
1906-7	1,569 ...	1,392
1907-8	1,489 ...	1,201

Of the 1,489 cases, 128 appear under the head of "Other Offences," which include breach of local rules and other minor offences, leaving 1,361 cases, to come under the heading of crimes. In 1906-7 there were 966 cases under the heading of

"Other Offences," leaving 603 under crime. There has therefore been an increase of 758 cases of crime during the year. This is chiefly due to the large increase of vagrants sent weekly from Aden.

During the year under review, there was no case of murder.

A comparative statement of serious crimes is appended:—

Crime.	Convictions. 1906-7.	Convictions. 1907-8.
Rape	5 ...	—
Murder	2 ...	—
Robbery	170 ...	285
Grievous Hurt ...	5 ...	3
Riot	31 ...	—
Forgery	2 ...	—

The convictions in the Protectorate Court and District Court for the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	Protectorate Court.	District Court.
1903-4	No statistics available	
1904-5	2 ...	772
1905-6	3 ...	1,225
1906-7	4 ...	1,388
1907-8	3 ...	1,198

The Protectorate Court returns show cases tried before His Majesty's Commissioner, and the District Court figures represent cases tried in Berbera and Bulhar Districts, High and Subordinate Courts.

There was no appeal against the decision of the Sub-Commissioner during the year. As a matter of fact there is no criminal population in Zaila. Most of the offences committed are assaults and are not of a serious character.

Bad characters from Djibouti turn up occasionally, also from Berbera.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

Return of the Statistics of the population for the Year.

—	Europeans and whites.	Somalis.	Indians.	Arabs.	Mixed.	—
Number of inhabitants in 1906.	65	300,000	200	300	100	Approximate.
Births, 1907	—	—	—	—	—	Unknown.
Deaths, 1907	—	—	—	—	—	Unknown.
Immigrants, 1907 ..	13	3,447	—	—	—	
Emigrants, 1907 ..	—	3,007	—	—	—	
Inhabitants, 1907 ..	78	300,000	200	300	100	
Increase	13	—	—	—	—	
Decrease	—	—	—	—	—	

Population.—No census has ever been taken. The population is increasing, but not in geometrical ratio, even at the present time, when the general conditions are favourable. The increase may be more correctly estimated as in arithmetical ratio to the means of subsistence.

The birth-rate is approximately 10 per cent. on the coast among the married women.

No census has ever been taken in Zaila. The number of inhabitants in the hot season, that is from May to September, averages about 4,000, and during the remainder of the year about 6,500 to 7,000. The majority of the inhabitants are Somalis, Arabs, Indians, and Jews; no register of births and deaths of natives is kept.

(B.) Public Health.

The general public health of the Protectorate during the year has been good, and no serious disease has occurred. This may in part be referred to the improved sanitary condition of the town of Berbera, which will be dealt with under the general sanitary condition of the Protectorate.

As regards the table of diseases, it should be borne in mind that there exists a difference between the winter and summer numbers of the population on the coast. In the winter there are some 20,000 to 30,000 natives collected at the coast town of Berbera alone. In the summer these numbers drop to some 3,000 to 4,000. This variation is dependent on climatic conditions, affecting the supply of fodder for stock, and the conditions of trade generally.

The periods when sickness is chiefly prevalent are the spring and autumn, in consequence chiefly of the lack of wool clothing among the natives, who use cotton almost exclusively, with a blanket at night when they can get it. The experience of the last three years has been that it is impossible to provide blankets for the hospital patients, as they are invariably smuggled out and sold. The usual excuse is that the blanket was stolen while the patient was asleep; but it would appear that nearly 50 per cent. of the patients steal hospital property entrusted for their use. A considerable degree of care is called for in preventing the importation of infectious diseases, both from the interior of Africa generally, and from Abyssinia in particular. The rice ports of India and the date-exporting centres along the Persian Gulf have also to be watched in this respect.

The native Somali is essentially temperate and seems naturally liable to few diseases. When ill they, as a race, are inclined to disregard the matter. To travel from the locality where they happen to be at the time is looked upon as a universal panacea.

During the year an arrangement has been come to with the authorities at Aden, whereby inoculation certificates will be

made use of when any outbreak of plague occurs at Aden. It has been arranged that such certificates shall exempt from quarantine on the Somali coast.

Malarial Fever.

The returns from the united coast hospitals show that malaria is on the increase. The figures are as follows:—

In 1904	9	cases	are recorded
In 1905	117	„	„
In 1906	539	„	„
In 1907	751	„	„

The causes leading to this condition of affairs are:—

(1) The increase of vegetation in the neighbourhood of the dwelling houses, which was referred to last year.

(2) The existing drainage system, which is but a slight improvement on the one existing at the beginning of the year, and is not satisfactory.

(3) The lack of measures to prevent the natives from digging or using wells in the native part of the towns.

Dysentery.

The number of cases was 135, as against 62 last year, and 117 in 1905. As in previous years, all the cases were of a very mild type.

Malignant and Non-malignant growths.

No cases of malignant growth or suspected malignancy were reported, and only three cases of non-malignant growths, these being Mycetomata.

Beri-Beri.

Three cases have occurred in the local jail. Recommendations have been made dealing with the matter and the general sanitary condition of the jail.

Diseases of the Skin.

The greater number of these patients were suffering from scabies, which was almost epidemic during the year.

Syphilis.

The total number of cases of this disease presented for treatment was only 77. This figure is particularly misleading where any estimation of its prevalence is concerned. The disease has, during the year, increased very greatly, but usually only the very advanced cases present themselves for treatment, and

those who are also very poor. The reason for this is that, all who can afford to do so, journey to a small spot, on the Arabian coast, named Sheikh Mohil, situated about a day and a half marching journey from Mocha, which is the usual landing port for for those proceeding to the place. The treatment at Sheikh Mokil is conducted on the water cure principle. The water is drunk on the first day or so, afterwards the treatment is chiefly confined to bathing frequently. The patients are allowed goats' meat and milk, sweet oil, and rice, and two ounces of dates when the cure has shown signs of progressing favourably. The following articles of diet are not allowed, namely, the meat or milk of either camel, sheep, or cow. The matter is considered worth recording, as very unusual and speedy cures have come under notice.

Tubercular Disease.

These diseases are fairly frequently met with. There were 68 cases in all treated, with 12 deaths. The figures of those treated in hospital were 39 cases, 11 deaths, and 3 remaining in hospital at the end of the year, and three discharged improved.

Poisons.

These cases all relate to snake bites, stings, or to injuries inflicted by fish. No deaths were recorded.

(C.) Sanitation.

General Sanitary Condition of the Protectorate and Chief Towns.

The dry climate on the coast is the most important natural sanitary factor. Owing to the natural scarcity of water, pollution of the supply, which is mainly derived from wells, is comparatively easily avoided. Neither of these two factors is, however, made the most of. The necessary outlay, and upkeep of any public improvements, does not meet with favour among the native population generally. The walling in of wells, street regulation and cleaning, the disposal of surface drainage, &c., may all be regarded as probably meeting opposition.

Berbera.

This, the chief town, is divided into a European and native allotment, situated at some distance from one another. During the present year, the European quarter has been further freed from the numerous and insanitary Indian subordinates' quarters, which occupied the immediate neighbourhood of the Government offices. The Indian subordinates have been provided for in suitably spacious and conveniently arranged quarters, which, however, lack suitable ventilation, and a water drainage system.

The principle to be commended for the whole of the European and Indian subordinate locations, is that of the dry-earth closet system, with a separate closed waste water drainage connected in the subordinate quarters with the bath, and in the European quarter with the houses both at the bath and at the pantry or cook's house.

The considerable extension of the garden area, in the immediate neighbourhood of the dwelling houses, both of the European, as well as in part of the native town, is, as was pointed out in last year's report, unwise. In the absence of drainage, trees near the houses are a source of danger, since they increase the dampness of the ground. On the other hand, scattered trees, other than palms, may advantageously be planted at a short distance from houses.

Bulhar and Zaila.

These towns are supplied by brackish wells, mostly at a distance from the towns themselves. The water is liable to produce symptoms of diarrhœa among those unaccustomed to its use. The impurities are chiefly salt and sand. The houses and drainage are greatly in need of attention.

Inland Posts.

The posts at Sheikh, Burao, and Ber have all a fair, but limited water supply. At the former place improvements have been effected, and bungalows put up for the officers in charge.

(D.) Climate.

The climate of the Somaliland Protectorate, is a naturally dry and uniform one. Both the diurnal variations and the changes of the seasons maintain a regularity of mean variation that is remarkable.

There are two distinct seasons, the hot, from May to September, when the coast belt becomes almost true desert, and the cool season from October to April.

Temperature.

There are two ranges of temperature. These maintain a pretty uniform relation the one to the other. The coast range of temperature exists over nearly a fifty mile belt inland, reaching to the hills, and is some 10° F. above the second, or Highland, temperature.

The extremes of temperature recorded at Berbera were, lowest (shade minimum) 45° F. in March; highest (shade maximum) 110° occurring in both June and July.

The mean temperature was 80° F. at Berbera, and the mean daily range 28° F.

Rainfall.

The rainfall for the year, as recorded at Berbera, was ·94 of an inch only.

Direction and Force of Wind.

The direction of the wind is from the north-east from November to April, and from the south-west from May to September, this latter wind often being of considerable force.

Abnormal Phenomena.

No abnormal phenomena were recorded as having occurred.

VIII.—GENERAL.

Statement showing the number of game animals of each species killed under licence in this Protectorate during the year 1907:—

Greater Kudu	11
Lesser Kudu	11
Oryx	22
Hartebeeste	11
Waller's Gazelle	34
Soemering's Gazelle	68
Speke's and Pelzeln's Gazelle	73
Clarke's Gazelle	8
Klipspringer	13
Baira	7
Dik Dik	81
Wart Hog	11
Ostrich, Female (confiscated)	1
G. Bustard	1
Lion	5
Leopard	9
Cheetah	1
Total	367

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title-page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
553	St. Lucia	1906–1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906–1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar	"
564	Ashanti	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907–1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ...	1907
567	Seychelles	"
568	Bermuda	"
569	Weihaiwei	"
570	Hong Kong	"
571	Malta	1907–1908
572	British Honduras	1907
573	Gold Coast	"
574	Nyasaland Protectorate	1907–1908
575	Bahamas	"
576	Gambia	1907
577	St. Vincent...	1907–1908
578	Turks and Caicos Islands	1907
579	St. Lucia	"
580	Fiji	"
581	Mauritius	"
582	Straits Settlements	"
583	Southern Nigeria	"
584	Imperial Institute...	1906–1907
585	Barbados	1907–1908

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
49	East Africa Protectorate	... Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies ...	... Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria ...	... Forest Administration.
52	South Africa ...	... Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	... Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907–08.
54	Newfoundland	... Governor's visit to Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	... Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks Islands	... Salt Industry.

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1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 623.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1908-9.

(For Report for 1907–8, *see* No. 586.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1909.

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No. 623.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE.

(For Report for 1907–8, *see* No. 586.)

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Commissioner's Office, Berbera,
15th October, 1909.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Somaliland Protectorate, for the year ended on the 31st of March, 1909.

I have, &c.,

H. E. S. CORDEAUX.

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

(14714—2.) Wt. 26122—322. 1125. 11/09. D & S.

REPORT ON THE SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1908-09.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue collected during the year under review amounted to £30,326, being £1,719 in excess of the amount collected in 1907-08, but £5,429 short of the amount originally estimated.

The figures for the past six years are appended for comparison:—

	Revenue collected. £
1903-1904	39,842
1904-1905	35,188
1905-1906	39,477
1906-1907	38,388
1907-1908	28,607
1908-1909	30,326

The depression in trade, which was such a noticeable feature in the previous year, has partially disappeared, but it cannot be said that trade has wholly recovered.

There were increases in the revenue under the following Heads:—Customs, £1,694; Port and Harbour Dues, £103; Licences, &c., £60; Fees of Court or Office, £378; Post Office, £180; Miscellaneous Receipts, &c., £66. The only Head of Revenue to show a decrease was, Interest, £805.

This latter decrease was anticipated, as the revenue in former years was derived from accumulated balances on deposit. These balances have now disappeared, and this head of revenue has been abolished. It could hardly have been styled a legitimate source of revenue. Excluding this, it will be seen that the ordinary revenue of the Protectorate shows an increase as compared with the previous year of £2,520, or nearly nine per cent.

Under Customs the principal increases were in imports of American grey sheeting, European white long cloth, kerosine oil, tea, and tobacco.

Although there was a large increase in the import of rice, this was entirely due to the extra quantity required by Government for feeding the reinforcements, and was admitted duty free.

Exports of coffee, mother-of-pearl shells, and sheep and goat skins all show very satisfactory increases.

Revenue suffered owing to decreases in imports of dates, flour, jowari, and other grains; also in exports of livestock, ghee, ostrich feathers, cured fish, gum, ivory, guano, and pearls.

There is no doubt that had the interior of the Protectorate remained undisturbed for the whole of the year, there would have been a larger increase in trade, and Customs revenue would have improved much more than it did.

Although the increase under Postal Revenue is comparatively small, it is nevertheless a very satisfactory one, showing as it does that the public appreciate the various innovations which are gradually bringing the Protectorate post office into line with the other systems of the Postal Union.

The total expenditure for the year 1908-1909 was £134,534, or £29,333 more than in the previous year. This increase was entirely due to extra military expenditure on account of the reinforcements introduced for the protection of our frontier friendly tribes against the depredations of the Mullah and his supporters.

Excepting the extra military expenditure, the only increases of note were under Political Administration and Military (6th Battalion King's African Rifles). In each case large purchases of remounts were responsible for the increase.

Decreases in expenditure as compared with the previous year were effected under several heads, but the main decreases were under Postal and Telegraphs and Public Works, and three special heads of expenditure (Italian Claims, 33rd Punjabis, and Irrecoverable Loss), which figured in the returns for 1907-1908, but which disappeared from the returns for 1908-1909, accounting for a decrease of £4,750.

The decrease under Postal and Telegraphs was due to the fact that only minor repairs to the existing field telegraph line were necessary. No new lines were erected.

Under Public Works there was a decrease of £730, due to the fact that the programme for the year was much more modest than that for the preceding year. Several new public buildings, such as a Residency, customs house, gaol, and pier are still necessary, the present accommodation being very inadequate, but until such time as expenditure in other directions can be reduced that under Public Works must necessarily remain at a very low figure.

The completion during the year of a market-building for the accommodation of date merchants, who will be charged stall fees, will add somewhat to the revenue of the Protectorate.

There have been no important changes in taxation.

At 31st March, 1909, the liabilities exceeded the assets by £1,365 18*s.* 7*d.* This was due to the fact that in March, 1909, drafts were drawn locally to meet special military expenditure which should have fallen as a charge against the year following, these drafts not being presented till April, 1909.

There was no change in the currency during the year.

The Indian rupee is still the basis of the coinage.

There are no properly authorized banks in the Protectorate, although a local firm, Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, are prepared to receive deposits of private individuals, cashing cheques drawn against them.

A municipal fund only exists in Berbera. Revenue, controlled by the District Officer, Berbera, is obtained from the following sources:—

1. Sweeping and hut tax.
2. Nuisance fines.

The tax is paid by every one who has a house or hut in the town of Berbera, and the fines are collected from people committing a nuisance within a limited area.

The tax is only levied at Berbera, but fines are inflicted both at Bulhar and Zaila.

The establishment maintained is as follows:—

1 Tax Collector at Rs. 30 per mensem.
1 Muccadum at Rs. 27 per mensem.
16 Sweepers at Rs. 16, 15, and Rs. 12 per mensem.
6 Watchmen at Rs. 12 per mensem.

Revenue during 1908-09 amounted to Rs. 6,078 3*a*. 0*p*., showing a decrease of Rs. 2,126 8*a*. 3*p*. on last year. There was an increase of Rs. 980 4*a*. 7*p*. in expenditure.

The decrease in revenue is owing to the rental of the meat market being no longer paid into the municipal fund.

A comparative statement of revenue and expenditure for the last five years is shown below:—

——	1904–5.	1905–6.	1906–7.	1907–8.	1908–9.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue	5,957	7,275	7,880	8,205	6,078
Expenditure ...	4,457	8,040	6,912	5,450	6,430

There is no municipality in Zaila. The town is kept clean by the Government sweepers, who are paid by the Administration.

There are 9 sweepers, 1 muccadum, and 1 lamp lighter, who cost altogether Rs. 2,256 during the year under report.

The receipts of the local Conservancy Fund during the year under report amounted to Rs. 161 8*a*., and the expenditure to Rs. 117 9*a*.

The municipalities have no debts.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

The annual value of the trade of the British Somaliland Protectorate for the last five years is as shown below:—

Years.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1904–5	4,481,072	2,861,369	7,342,441
1905–6	3,927,414	3,040,980	6,968,394
1906–7	4,168,329	3,180,885	7,349,214
1907–8	3,349,200	3,007,557	6,356,757
1908–9	4,049,147	3,240,964	7,290,111

The value of the imports for the year 1908-1909, including specie (Rs. 354,335), was Rs. 4,403,482.

The value of imports and specie imported into each port during 1908-09 was:—

Value of Imports.		Rs.	Rs.
Berbera		2,716,212	
Bulhar		564,774	
Hais		80,952	
Karam		17,519	
Zaila		669,690	
			4,049,147
Value of Specie.			
Berbera		119,965	
Bulhar		127,188	
Zaila		107,182	
			354,335
Total		Rs.	4,403,482

Cotton Goods.

Notwithstanding a decrease at Bulhar of 12,060 yards, and an increase of Rs. 15,669 in value, the imports of American grey sheeting exceeded in value those of last year by Rs. 2,15,199. In anticipation of a military expedition, which the merchants considered inevitable, large stocks were shipped to Berbera and Bulhar. The trade at Hais was stimulated by the blockade against the Warsangli Coast, and Zaila profited through the presence of a competitive steamer which was laden by the principal shareholder with such merchandise to provide freight and sustain her as long as possible against her most powerful rivals.

An abnormal increase of 91,957 yards of European white long cloth at Bulhar, and 360 yards at Hais counterbalanced the decline by Rs. 8,270 in value at the other ports, and augmented the total imports by Rs. 6,476 over last year's transactions. The

demand at Bulhar is attributed to the rise of Jig-Jigga as a trading station where the Somali can most profitably exchange cloth for jowari. As the fabric is mainly for local sale at Zaila, the poverty of the people, owing to a drought in the interior, precluded them from purchasing the usual quantity. Coincident with the demand at Berbera for American grey sheeting, there was a corresponding decline in apparel, which the natives consider more ornamental than durable.

Country grey sheeting has been entirely superseded by more substantial material, and that it again occurs amongst the items of import at Zaila to the extent of 29,676 yards, valued at Rs. 4,155, implies its convenient inclusion amongst the cargo of American cloth transported by the competitive steamer only to serve a temporary purpose. In the ordinary course, it would have been shipped to Djibouti for the Abyssinian market.

Cotton and Silk Piece-goods.

The quantity and value of these textiles are dependent more or less on the quality, the prevailing feature, and the prosperity or extravagance of the people, but there is practically no demand in the country for either cheap or expensive silk piece goods. During the year Rs. 2,03,172 worth of the former and Rs. 2,408 worth of the latter were brought for local sale, contrasted with Rs. 2,03,087 and Rs. 2,908 worth in 1907-08.

Grain, Flour, and Dates.

In sympathy with the Indian market, all cereals and meal were vended at an exorbitant rate, and consequently the value of jowari, flour, and "other grains" declined from Rs. 3,53,401, Rs. 74,996, and Rs. 1,53,220, respectively, to Rs. 3,12,456, Rs. 44,106, and Rs. 1,15,474, respectively. The extra quantity of rice landed at Berbera, 101,385 cwts. compared with 69,789 cwts. in 1907-08, or Rs. 6,30,705 valuation against Rs. 4,33,729 valuation, approximately, represents Government rations consigned to the military contractor. From the additional import of 905 cwts. into Hais, it is inferred that this port was considered the safest inlet for supplies destined for the interior of the disturbed Warsangli country. Direct shipments by country craft of the cheapest variety of rice increased the imports into Karam by 139 cwts., but the trade in cereals generally at Bulhar would have been still further reduced if the Abyssinian authorities had not imposed an embargo against unlimited purchase of jowari at Jig-Jigga.

Some of the Persian Gulf dhows found a readier and more profitable market at Aden, and others sailed direct to that port with chartered consignments. The value, therefore, of dates imported into the Protectorate declined to the extent of Rs. 11,839, or from Rs. 4,51,652 to Rs. 4,39,813. Of the total quantity 91,379 cwts., or a decrease of 2,195 cwts., Berbera took the greatest proportion, 77,943 cwts., or 1,373 cwts. more than last year, whereas Zaila showed the greatest decrease, 4,429 cwts. against 6,074 cwts. in 1907-08.

Provisions.

The extending use of tea and sugar amongst the natives increased the value of imports by Rs. 9,504 and Rs. 7,722, respectively, and salt valued at Rs. 2,221 more than last year's shipments sufficed for the local and the Abyssinian demand.

Increases also appear as under:—

	Rs.
Animals, living	54,969
Ammunition	2,92,049
Arms	763
Boots and shoes	3,389
Saddlery	22,023
Machinery	5,118
Copperware	6,43,017
Tobacco	2,818
Miscellaneous	6,99,947

With the exception of tobacco and building material, the latter having decreased to Rs. 10,444 the other enumerated items more or less represent Government stores and equipment. The initial operations of the Fibre Company necessarily included most of the machinery brought into the Protectorate.

The increase of specie valuation by Rs. 2,04,951 is due to larger imports of the Maria Theresa dollar for circulation in Abyssinia.

In 1908-09 the value of exports amounted to Rs. 34,16,747, distributed as follows:—

Exports	Value. Rs.
Somaliland produce	3,196,954
Imported and re-exported	44,010
Specie	175,783
Total	3,416,747

Exports, other than specie, show an increase during the year of Rs. 2,33,407 on the figures for 1907-08. Amongst the most noticeable items are the following:—

	Rs.
Animals (living); camels, and other kinds..	9,954
Charcoal	2,781
Coffee, raw	27,531
Fibre	735
Hides	381
Shells, mother-of-pearl	20,395
Skins, sheep and goat, and unenumerated, dressed and undressed	3,18,124
Tallow	803
Miscellaneous	15,832

There was a demand for all indigenous products, and if the natives had not been more profitably employed in hiring their

camels to the Government, they would have exerted themselves to supply most of the items which show a decline.

Decreased exports are shown as under:—

	Rs.
Animals (living); sheep and goats, oxen, horses	40,210
Bones	1,121
Ghee	55,164
Feathers, ornamental, ostrich	2,681
Fish, cured and salted...	5,889
Gum; Myrrh, Arabic, and unenumerated ...	27,644
Ivory, teeth, elephants	10,576
Manure, guano	11,931
Precious stones, uncut, pearls	5,342
Saffron	402
Salt	1,741
Beeswax	528

The discontinuance of the experimental shipments of sheep and goats to Suez viâ Aden, the local consumption of ghee, and the transport of ivory by rail to Djibouti, are the reasons which account for the more appreciable items of export trade which indicated the decrease column. .

(C.) Shipping.

The shipping returns for the British Somaliland Protectorate show a decrease of 444 vessels with an increase of 48,607 tonnage.

—	1907–1908.		1908–1909.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	1,918	65,533	1,694	89,089
Cleared	1,916	64,505	1,696	89,556

The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered and cleared during the year 1908-09 were as under:—

—	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Berbera—						
Entered	136	51,973	439	10,510	575	62,483
Cleared	136	51,973	441	10,977	577	62,950
Total	272	103,946	880	21,487	1,152	125,443

—	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Bulhar—						
Entered	54	5,880	364	5,127	418	11,007
Cleared	54	5,880	364	5,127	418	11,007
Total	108	11,760	728	10,254	836	22,014
Hais—						
Entered	—	—	118	4,197	118	4,197
Cleared	—	—	118	4,197	118	4,197
Total	—	—	236	8,394	236	8,394
Zaila—						
Entered	56	6,056	527	5,346	583	11,402
Cleared	56	6,056	527	5,346	583	11,402
Total	112	12,112	1,054	10,692	1,166	22,804
Grand total ...	492	127,818	2,898	50,827	3,390	178,645

For the transport to Berbera of stores and rations, steamers of heavy draught were chartered, both by the Government and the Military Contractor, and consequently though the number of mercantile vessels which called at these ports was two less than last year, yet the aggregative tonnage exceeded that of 1907-08 by 51,626. The decline in the number and tonnage of country craft by 160 and 1,920, respectively, at Zaila, and 164 and 2,646, respectively, at Bulhar, contributed to the general decrease of 442 and 3,019 from the total of 2,098 in number and 50,827 in tonnage. The difference at the former port marks its decay, but that at the latter is only temporary, as the high price and diminished imports of cereals have dislocated its interportal trade with Berbera, the entrepôt.

The nationality of vessels entered and cleared during 1908-09 in the British Somaliland Protectorate is made up thus:—

—	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	1,307	65,651	1,302	65,334
Italian	23	437	24	440
French	7	674	8	829
German	3	9,162	3	9,162
Austrian	1	3,727	1	3,727
Turkish	18	1,821	18	1,821
Persian	1	109	1	109
Arab	334	7,508	339	8,134
Total	1,694	89,089	1,696	89,556

The total harbour dues collected at the port of Berber. during the year 1908-1909 are shown under the headings:—

	Amount. Rs.
Port dues or tonnage dues	3,146
Licences and monthly fees for passenger boats	175
Licences and monthly fees for cargo boats...	659
Total	3,980
Total for 1907-08	2,337
Net increase	1,643

Registration of Vessels Fees.

The total amount derived from registration fees at Protectorate ports during the year 1908-1909 was:—

	Amount. Rs.
Berbera, Bulhar, and Hais:—	
Registration fees	87
Miscellaneous fees	33
Zaila:—	
Registration fees	33
Total	153

Fees and Royalties.

Fees charged under the Merchant Shipping Regulations during the year 1908-1909:—

	Amount. Rs.
Berbera—Bills of health	683
Other miscellaneous fees	9
Total	692

Fees charged for water supply during the year 1908-1909:—

	Amount. Rs.
Berbera—Water supply	288
Total	288

Fees collected on fire-arms stamping and registration for the year 1908-1909:—

	Amount. Rs.
Stamping fees:—	
Berbera	117
Bulhar	3
Zaila	10
Total	130

(E.) Inland Trade.

(Brought by caravans.)

The value of the inland trade registered at Berbera and Bulhar for 1908-1909 was:—

	Value. Rs.
Berbera	1,683,494
Bulhar	1,062,087
Total	2,745,581

Summary Statement of the Value of Imports and Exports in the Returns of the

(The Form has been modified for Colonial use by the inclusion

—	Imports.				Exports.			
					Domestic Produce.			
	From United Kingdom.	From British Possessions.	From Foreign Countries.	Total.	To United Kingdom.	To British Possessions.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink and Tobacco.								
A. Grain and Flour	—	86,869	162	87,031	—	—	—	—
B. Meat, including animals for food.	—	54	1	55	—	32,550	184	32,734
C. Other food and drink—								
(1) Non-dutiable	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Dutiable	—	34,300	10,412	44,712	—	16,815	936	17,751
D. Tobacco	—	2,679	8	2,687	—	—	—	—
Total Class I.	—	123,902	10,583	134,485	—	49,365	1,120	50,485
II.—Raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured.								
A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C. Other metallic ores	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
D. Wood and Timber	—	—	—	—	—	251	216	467
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
G. Other textile materials.. ..	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
H. Oil seeds, nuts, oil fat, and gums	—	3,121	2	3,123	—	6,152	39	6,191
I. Hides and undressed skins ..	—	—	—	—	—	144,171	128	144,299
J. Material for papor making ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
K. Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	—	8,768	171	8,939
Total Class II.	—	3,122	2	3,124	—	159,342	554	159,896
III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.								
A. Iron and Steel and manufactures thereof.	—	1,023	16	1,039	—	—	—	—
B. Other materials and manufactures thereof.	8,110	252	—	8,362	—	—	—	—
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments.	—	219	1	220	—	—	—	—
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
E. Machinery	—	1,584	1	1,585	—	—	—	—
F. Ships (new)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture).	—	2,753	50	2,803	—	—	—	—
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—								
(1) Cotton	—	73,695	1,021	74,716	—	—	—	—
(2) Wool	—	669	—	669	—	—	—	—
(3) Other material	—	472	9	481	—	—	—	—
I. Apparel	—	1,053	—	1,053	—	—	—	—
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, and colour.	—	340	1	341	—	—	—	—
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots, shoes and gloves).	—	2,038	1	2,039	—	—	—	—
L. Earthen and glassware	—	349	39	388	—	—	—	—
M. Paper	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
N. Miscellaneous	15	21,470	55	21,540	—	—	—	—
Total Class III.. ..	8,125	105,917	1,194	115,236	—	—	—	—
IV.—Miscellaneous and unclassified (including Parcel Post).								
Miscellaneous	—	16,447	651	17,098	—	1,471	1,278	2,749
Total Class IV.	—	16,447	651	17,098	—	1,471	1,278	2,749
V.—Bullion and Specie.								
Bullion and Specie	—	21,838	1,784	23,622	—	10,547	1,172	11,719
Total Class V.	—	21,838	1,784	23,622	—	10,547	1,172	11,719
Grand Total	8,125	271,226	14,214	293,565	—	220,725	4,124	224,849

Somaliland Protectorate classified by Groups used in the Trade United Kingdom.

of Columns showing Trade with the United Kingdom.)

Exports—*continued.*								
Other than Domestic.				Total Exports.				
To United Kingdom.	To British Possessions.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.	To United Kingdom.	To British Possessions.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.	—
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	A. Grain and Flour.
—	—	—	—	—	32,550	184	32,734	B. Meat, including animals for food.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	C. Other food and drink—
—	—	4	4	—	16,815	940	17,755	(1) Non-dutiable. (2) Dutiable.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	D. Tobacco.
—	—	—	—	—	49,365	1,124	50,489	Total Class I.
								II.—Raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	C. Other metallic ores.
—	—	—	—	—	251	216	467	D. Wood and timber.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	E. Cotton.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	F. Wool.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	G. Other textile materials.
—	—	—	—	—	6,152	39	6,191	H. Oil seeds, nuts, oil fat, and gums.
—	—	—	—	—	144,171	128	144,299	I. Hides and undressed skins.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	J. Material for paper making.
—	68	—	68	—	8,836	171	9,007	K. Miscellaneous.
—	68	—	68	—	159,410	554	159,964	Total Class II.
								III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	B. Other materials and manufactures thereof.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	C. Cutlery, hardware, implements, and instruments.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	D. Telegraph cables and apparatus.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	E. Machinery.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	F. Ships (new).
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture).
								H. Yarns and textile fabrics—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1) Cotton.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(2) Wool.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(3) Other material.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	I. Apparel.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, and colour.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots, shoes and gloves).
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	L. Earthen and glassware.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	M. Paper.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	N. Miscellaneous.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Total Class III.
								IV.—Miscellaneous and unclassified (including Parcel Post).
—	2,783	79	2,862	—	4,254	1,357	5,611	Miscellaneous.
—	2,783	79	2,862	—	4,254	1,357	5,611	Total Class IV.
								V.—Bullion and Specie.
—	—	—	—	—	10,547	1,172	11,719	Bullion and specie.
—	—	—	—	—	10,547	1,172	11,719	Total Class V.
—	2,851	83	2,934	—	223,576	4,207	227,783	Grand Total.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Eight Ordinances were enacted during the year 1908.

IV.—EDUCATION.

There are three Government schools in the Protectorate, at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zaila. The pupils are children of the local Indian and Arab traders, and a few Somalis. Only Arabic is taught. There is a Roman Catholic Mission and Convent at Berbera where the Somali children receive free education. They are taught to speak and read English, and some of the pupils have obtained employment under Government as clerks and telegraphists.

Beyond the efforts of the mission there is no secondary education, and industrial schools and training colleges do not exist.

No serious attempt has yet been made in Zaila to educate the natives. An Arab schoolmaster teaches the children to repeat the Koran in Arabic.

The average attendance at the various schools is as follows:—

Berbera	96
Bulhar	37
Zaila	27

The cost of upkeep during the year was Rs. 1,583 15*a*. 0*p*.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

General civil hospitals exist at the three coast towns of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zaila, respectively. At Berbera there are also an Isolation Hospital for tubercular patients, and a single ward building for the accommodation of small-pox cases. A disinfecting station also exists at Berbera, consisting of two rooms and a caretaker's hut, and is furnished with a small "Clayton Disinfector," capable of meeting all probable requirements.

Bulhar and Zaila are provided with temporary matting huts or tents, as required, to meet any contagious disease outbreak.

The inland, or up-country hospitals, are situated at Sheikh and Burao, respectively; both are camp hospitals only.

At Sheikh the civil camp hospital exists separately from the military hospital. At Burao civil and military patients are attended by the military medical officer, the Civil Medical Department furnishing a part of the equipment.

The number of patients treated at the civil hospitals for the year was 17,012, as against 10,458 in 1907, and 8,526 for the year 1906.

The daily average attendance of sick was 46·6, this not including the old cases.

The number of indoor patients was 542, as against 579 during 1907. There were 21 deaths in hospital, giving a percentage of 3·8 deaths to those treated.

The General Hospital at Berbera consists of three wards containing in all 42 beds, the accommodation being arranged by a general ward, a police and prisoners', and a female ward. A dispensary, office, medical store, and subordinates' quarters, complete this institution. This hospital was built about the year 1886, and, with minor repairs and additions, is in a fair state of repair. A small operating room and laboratory are, however, much needed, which will, I trust, be available before the conclusion of the present year.

The Isolation Hospital.—This consists of one large ward and five small ones. These, together with a kitchen, washhouse, and some stone terraces for the accommodation of the patients during the day, are enclosed within an outer boundary wall. The hospital is situated on a rocky hill about a mile and three-quarters from the town. The accommodation at present is for 40 beds. A water supply by pipe has been sanctioned, and it is hoped will be completed during the year. At the present time water is conveyed by donkey transport from the town. The high and dry site of this building has proved particularly suitable for the tubercular patients who are treated at this institution.

The Infectious Diseases Hospital is a single-roomed structure, partially surrounded by a wall, on the south-eastern extremity of the town. It is furnished with a thatched roof and sand floor. Its essential purpose is for small-pox patients.

The Quarantine Station:—This has been built on a firm, sandy area of ground on the "spit" which runs along the outer side of the harbour, well separated from the town, and is generally well adapted for the purpose. Tents or temporary huts would be erected as required. The station is placed near the natural landing point where any quarantine camp would be pitched. A watchman is in charge of the "Clayton" disinfector and plant. It is hoped that a rubble landing slip may be constructed in the future, as funds become available, for the facilities of landing merchandise and baggage requiring disinfection.

The Bulhar Hospital consists of a single ward, holding four beds, and a dispensary to which it is attached. Latrine accommodation is provided at the rear of the hospital. Resident hospital assistant's quarters are situated near, and within easy call from the ward. The hospital, which is constructed of reeds and plaster, is in indifferent repair, and, owing to its construction, is frequently found to contain scorpions, which have taken up their abode in the walls.

The Zaila Hospital consists of a single ward capable of holding six patients, having a dispensary and operating room attached. The hospital is contained within, and forms part of, the Fort.

The site of the hospital is bad, as it lies too low. Should the importance of the town permit expenditure for this purpose, a better site would be found on the sea frontage between the Customs House and the Residency.

No proper lunatic asylum exists, but a small room at the jail in Berbera is made use of for the purpose of watching any cases occurring among criminals. Other cases are occasionally accommodated at the Isolation Hospital.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The following table shows the strength and distribution of police, mounted and foot, on March 31st, 1909:—

Foot Police.

Station.	Superintendent of Police.	Jemadars.	Non-Commissioned Officers and Men.
Berbera and Bulhar ...	1	3	137
Karam and Hais	—	1	25
Total	1	4	162

Mounted Police.

Station.	Superintendent of Police.	Jemadars.	Non-Commissioned Officers and Men.
Berbera and Bulhar ...	—	1	35

The police force of the Berbera, Bulhar, Hais, and Karam Districts is under the District Officer, Berbera, to whom the Superintendent of Police is responsible.

During the year 998 prisoners were convicted by the Berbera and Bulhar courts, being 467 less than in the preceding year. Prisoners sentenced by military and political courts are detained in the coast jails, but cases tried by those courts are not included in the ordinary criminal returns.

There was not an escape from prison during the year under report.

The following table shows the number of escapes in Berbera and Bulhar during the past three years:—

Year.	Escapes.	Recaptures.
1906-1907	2	2
1907-1908	2	0
1908-1909	—	—

The daily average of convicted prisoners in Berbera and Bulhar Jails was 157 as against 170 in 1907-1908.

Three deaths took place amongst prisoners during the year.

The cost of maintenance of prisoners amounted to Rs. 12,638 6*a*. 0*p*.

The Zaila gaol is a small coral building roofed with corrugated iron sheeting, and is under the direct supervision of the Acting Sub-Commissioner.

It has not been found possible to render the labour of the prisoners remunerative. Most of the so-called political prisoners are simply detained pending the restitution of stock looted by them or by their relations, and their expenses while so detained are recovered, when possible, from their tribes.

Civil prisoners are not required to work, but are merely taken out for exercise. Their expenses while detained in prison are, as a rule, recovered from the judgment creditor at whose instance they are detained.

There were 939 summary convictions in the subordinate court, and 2 convictions in the higher court during 1908-1909.

A comparative statement of cases reported to the Berbera and Bulhar courts during the last 5 years is appended:—

Years.	Cases reported.	Convictions or committals.
1904-05	991	774
1905-06	1,457	1,241
1906-07	1,569	1,392
1907-08	1,489	1,201
1908-09	1,165	939

Of these 1,165 cases 55 appear under the head of "Other Offences," which include breaches of local rules and other minor offences, leaving 1,110 cases under the heading "Crime."

In 1907-08 there were 128 cases under the heading of "Other Offences," leaving 1,361 under "Crime." There has, therefore. been a decrease of 251 cases of crime during the year.

During the year under review there was no case of murder.

A comparative statement of serious crimes is appended:—

Crime.	Convictions, 1907-08.	Convictions, 1908-09.
Rape	—	—
Attempted murder	—	1
Robbery and theft	285	242
Grievous hurt	3	2
Forgery	—	—
Sedition	—	—
Breach of Fire-arms Regulations	—	1

The convictions in the Protectorate Court and District Courts for the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	Protectorate Court.	District Court.
1904-05	2	772
1905-06	3	1,225
1906-07	4	1,388
1907-08	3	1,198
1908-09	2	939

The Protectorate Court returns show cases tried before His Majesty's Commissioner, and the District Court figures represent cases tried in the District and Subordinate Courts of Berbera and Bulhar.

There was no appeal against the decisions of the Magistrate at Zaila during the year under review.

There is really no criminal population in Zaila, most of the offences committed being of a not very serious character, and consisting mainly of assaults and petty thefts.

Undesirable characters turn up somewhat frequently from Djibouti, and occasionally from Berbera and Bulhar.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

RETURN OF THE STATISTICS OF POPULATION FOR THE YEAR.

—	European and Whites.	Somalis.	Indians.	Arabs.	Mixed.
Number of inhabitants in 1907 (approximate).	78	300,000	200	300	100
Births (unknown), 1908 ...	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths (unknown), 1908 ...	—	—	—	—	—
Immigrants, 1908	8	3,753	—	—	—
Emigrants, 1908	—	3,209	—	—	—
Inhabitants, 1908	86	300,000	200	300	100
Increase	8	—	—	—	—
Decrease	—	—	—	—	—

Population.—No census has ever actually been taken. The population, owing to the naturally hard conditions of life, is increasing only in arithmetical ratio it is thought, even under favourable conditions, instead of the geometrical increase among more favoured races.

No census has ever been taken in Zaila. The number of inhabitants in the hot season, that is from May to September, averages about 4,000, and during the remainder of the year, about 6,500 to 7,000.

The majority of the inhabitants are Somalis, but there are also a certain number of Arab, Indian, and Jew traders.

No register of births and deaths of natives is kept.

The General Public Health throughout the Protectorate during the year has been good; and there has been no serious outbreak of disease of any kind. There has been an increase in the number of patients attending the hospitals pretty evenly distributed. This increase has not affected the death-rate or the number of in-patients, and may be attributed to the large number of cases of simple skin diseases. Every endeavour has been made during the year to keep a supply of simple drugs to meet these requirements, and this was successfully accomplished on the vote, though running other supplies somewhat close.

The three coast hospitals are chiefly visited during the winter months, Berbera, for example, having a population of from 20,000 to 30,000 during that time, whereas during the summer 3,000 to 4,000 is probably an outside figure. This variation must be taken into account when considering the table of diseases.

This migratory condition of the population is due to the excessive heat on the coast during the summer, the impossibility of feeding stock in the neighbourhood, and the many conditions governing trading of all sorts.

Early spring and late autumn are the periods when most patients come for treatment, this coinciding with the arrival of caravans and produce from the interior, as well as being the coolest time of the year.

There are two great considerations which materially affect the general public health; these are, first, that the population is practically entirely Mahomedan, and therefore total abstainers from all alcohol. The second condition is the indifferent precaution taken either against excessive heat by day or chill at night by the Somalis.

As regards the first of these conditions, we have at present a country free from any case of malignant disease during the last ten years or so, yet one in which the water is usually so polluted with mica, or other irritating impurities, as produce many cases of a condition allied to dysentery.

This tends to bear out an influence of alcohol, *per se*, to be a predisposing or exciting cause of malignant disease, otherwise than by its action as an irritant only. In connection with alcohol may also be mentioned the very marked difference shown under anæsthetics by the Somalis as against both the European and other races addicted to the use of this stimulant. Serious respiratory trouble is practically never met with, and struggling while going under is quite unusual, yet the people are of a both nervous and excitable temperament. In few cases only do the

natives either smoke or take tobacco, or its usual concomitant stimulant, coffee.

Regarding the second condition, to which I have drawn attention, the native dress is the same by day as night, and consists of cotton only. Wool is seldom, if ever, worn, nor is the Somali provident enough to provide himself with a blanket. Taking this into consideration, we account for a very large percentage of the total cases of respiratory diseases, rheumatism, and nerve pains.

The application of another Somali trait of character goes some way to explain their freedom from sun troubles, for in contradistinction to the imported Indian, he drinks an incredibly small amount of fluid when exposed to the sun on the march, being fully convinced that both staying power is affected as well as that heat-stroke is more liable to occur both in man and beast.

General Sanitary Condition of the Protectorate and Chief Towns.

A considerable improvement has taken place during the year, the chief feature of which has been in the direction of improvements to the quarters or houses allotted to the officials. Those who were formerly housed in the native town have now been found accommodation in the European quarter, and all the houses of the other officials have received more or less attention and improvement where most needed from a sanitary point of view.

The general feature of the coast belt of country being its extremely small rainfall, sanitation is a considerably simpler problem than in most of the other Protectorates. The general death-rate is certainly uncommonly low, and neither pyæmia nor tetanus are met with frequently.

As regards the town of Berbera, both the jail and the police lock-up require considerable improvement from a sanitary point of view; as also does the drainage system, which, I consider, could be dealt with at no prohibitive cost, but is as yet in a rudimentary state.

Opportunity has been taken for the popular instruction of hygiene among the more intelligent of the in-patients, by the explanation of the causes leading to their complaints, and more strictness exercised in insisting on personal cleanliness while they were inmates of the hospitals.

The coast belt of country is universally hot and dry throughout the whole extent of its seaboard, properly speaking only habitable during the cooler months, from October to May. Both natives and Europeans desire a cooler and less dust-laden atmosphere during the south-west monsoon, and as far as is possible take up their residence southward to the interior.

No special features mark this period of excessive heat, beyond the obvious one of its general debilitating effect and tendency to produce a condition of sleeplessness. It may even be regarded as effecting the useful purpose of inducing a change and break

in the monotony of office routine for those who are able to take their work elsewhere for a time.

Direction and force of wind.—This is from north-east during November to April, and from the south-west from May to September—this latter monsoon, locally known as the khariff, being of considerable force during the greater part of the time.

No abnormal phenomena are recorded as having occurred.

VIII.—GENERAL.

Statement showing the number of game animals of each species killed under licence in this Protectorate during the year 1908:—

	Number.
Greater Kudu	24
Lesser Kudu	18
Pelzeln's Gazelle	22
Lion	21
Soemering's Gazelle	95
Dik Dik	146
Speke's Gazelle	84
Waller's Gazelle	78
Leopard	26
Wild Pig	26
Oryx	29
Smaller Cats	4
Clarke's Gazelle	15
Baira	16
Klipspringer	17
Cheetah	4
Wild Ass	1
Total	626

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
587	Trinidad and Tobago	1907–1908
588	Sierra Leone	1907
589	British Guiana	1907–1908
590	Grenada	1907
591	Leeward Islands	1907–1908
592	East Africa Protectorate	,,
593	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
594	Northern Nigeria	,,
595	Basutoland	,,
596	Swaziland	,,
597	St. Helena	1908
598	Gibraltar	,,
599	Falkland Islands	,,
600	Uganda	1907–1908
601	Imperial Institute	1908
602	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
603	Ashanti	,,
604	Ceylon	,,
605	Weihaiwei	,,
606	Seychelles	,,
607	Jamaica	1907–1908
608	Colonial Survey Committee	1908–1909
609	Gambia	1908
610	Malta	1908–1909
611	Sierra Leone	1908
612	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
613	Gold Coast	,,
614	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1908–1909
615	Bahamas	,,
616	St. Lucia	1908
617	Hong Kong	,,
618	Fiji	,,
619	Nyasaland Protectorate	1908–1909
620	Barbados	,,
621	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
622	Straits Settlements	1908

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate ...	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907–8.
54	Newfoundland	Governor's Visit to the Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks Islands	Salt Industry.
57	Uganda	Governor's Tour.
58	British Colonies, &c.	Fibres.
59	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1906–7.
60	Nyasaland Protectorate ...	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
61	South Africa	Agriculture and Viticulture.
62	Uganda	Cotton Industry.

No. 649.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1909-10.

(For Report for 1908–9, *see* No. 623.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September, 1910.

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No. 649.

SOMALILAND.

(For Report for 1908–9, *see* No. 623.)

THE ACTING COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Commissioner's Office, Berbera,
27th July, 1910.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Somaliland Protectorate for the year ended on the 31st March, 1910.

I have, &c.,
H. A. BYATT.

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

(17368—2.) Wt. 27349—387. 1125 & 35. 9/10. D & S. A 2

REPORT ON THE SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1909-1910.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue collected during the year 1909-1910 amounted to £31,384, being £1,058 more than in 1908-1909 but £2,500 less than the estimated amount.

The figures for the last seven years are appended for comparison:—

	Revenue collected. £
1903-1904	39,842
1904-1905	35,188
1905-1906	39,477
1906-1907	38,388
1907-1908	28,607
1908-1909	30,326
1909-1910	31,384

The presence of reinforcements in the Protectorate during the year affected the revenue in two ways. It certainly assisted towards an increase in amount of import duty collected, but at the same time it contributed to a falling-off in revenue from export duty.

Ghi and livestock, which are two of the main items of the exports, were exported in small quantities only, as they were required for the feeding of the troops. The export of skins for some unknown reason was much smaller than in previous years.

Compared with returns for 1908-1909 the figures for 1909-1910 show increase under the following heads of revenue:—Customs, £1,442; Port and Harbour Dues, £24; Post Office, £245; Miscellaneous, £93; and decreases under the following heads:—Licences and Internal Revenue, £500; Fees of Court, &c., £163.

Under Customs the following articles of import show increases: rice, salt, European white long-cloth, and other piece-goods, ready-made apparel, and beads.

Exports of fibre, oxen, raw coffee, gum arabic, and myrrh show increases.

There are decreases in the following articles of import: dates, country grey sheeting, and kerosine oil.

The articles of export which show decreases are sheep and goat skins, ghi, live sheep and goats, charcoal, and mother-of-pearl shells.

As before stated, the presence of reinforcements in the Protectorate was a factor affecting the revenue.

A number of Somalis were engaged by the military as transport attendants, syces, interpreters, &c., at lucrative rates of pay; also large sums were earned by Somalis hiring out their

camels for transport of Government stores; as a consequence of this the native apparently thought it unnecessary to export his produce to the same extent he would have done had there been no extraordinary source of income. This materially affected the Customs revenue, which would otherwise have shown a much larger increase.

All articles imported for Government were admitted free of duty.

The increase under Post Office was mainly due to the increase of mails dealt with, due to the presence of large reinforcements.

The total expenditure for the year 1909-1910 was £192,838, or an increase over that for 1908-1909 of £58,304.

The total cost of maintenance of reinforcements for the year was estimated at £130,000, of which sum £98,075 was actually expended prior to 31st March, 1910.

Increases in expenditure as compared with that for the previous year occur under the following heads:—Pensions, His Majesty's Commissioner and Secretariat, Port and Marine, Medical, Transport and Passages, Special Military, Miscellaneous, Military, Post Office and Telegraphs.

Pensions.—Increase was due to two permanent pensions and one temporary pension being granted during the year.

His Majesty's Commissioner and Secretariat.—There is a corresponding saving under Political Administration.

Miscellaneous.—Due almost entirely to the expense of His Excellency the Sirdar's visit.

Military.—Due to the special gratuities granted to the non-commissioned officers and rank and file of the 6th King's African Rifles on disbandment.

Special Military.—Increase due to the length of time the reinforcements were in the country.

The increases under the heads Port and Marine, Medical, Transport and Passages, and Post Office and Telegraphs were trifling only.

There were decreases in the expenditure under the following heads:—

Civil Administration, Political Administration, Treasury, Customs, Audit, Public Works Department, Public Works Recurrent, and Public Works Extraordinary.

There was no building of any importance undertaken during the year.

Taxation.—There have been no important changes in taxation during the year.

At 31st March, 1910, the assets exceeded the liabilities by £27,679, but most of the surplus will be required to meet expenditure which was incurred during the year on account of Special Military, for which the Protectorate still awaits the presentation of claims.

There was no change in the currency during the year. The Indian rupee, 1*s.* 4*d.*, being still the basis of the coinage. Its subsidiary coins are given below:—

Silver—Half rupee	... ...	8 pence.
,, Quarter rupee	... ...	4 ,,
,, One-Eighth rupee	...	2 ,,
Nickel—One anna	... ...	1 penny.
Copper—Half anna	... ...	Half-penny.
,, One pice	... ...	Farthing.
,, One pie	... ...	1/12 of a penny.

There are no properly constituted banks in the Protectorate. A local firm, Messrs. Cowasjee, Dinshaw, and Brothers, receive deposits from private individuals, cashing cheques drawn against them.

MUNICIPAL.

A municipal fund only exists in Berbera. Revenue, controlled by the District Officer, Berbera, is obtained from the following sources:—

1. Sweeping and hut tax.
2. Nuisance fines.

The tax is paid by everyone who has a house or hut in the town of Berbera, and the fines are collected from people committing a nuisance within a limited area.

The tax is only levied at Berbera, but fines are inflicted both at Zeyla and Bulhar.

The establishment maintained is as follows:—

1 Tax Collector at Rs. 35 per mensem.
1 Assistant Collector at Rs. 25 per mensem.
1 Muccadum at Rs. 27 per mensem.
15 Sweepers at Rs. 16, 15, and 12 per mensem.
6 Watchmen at Rs. 12 per mensem.

Revenue during 1909-1910 amounted to Rs. 4,656, showing a decrease of Rs. 1,422 on last year. There was an increase of Rs. 1,343 in expenditure.

The decrease, Rs. 1,422, in revenue is owing to the rental of the meat market from April to October, 1909, being no longer paid into the municipal fund.

The increase, Rs. 1,343, in expenditure, is the cost of a new tank built for the purpose of supplying water to animals.

A comparative statement of revenue and expenditure for the last five years is shown below:—

——	1905-6.	1906-7.	1907-8.	1908-9.	1909-10.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue	7,275	7,880	8,205	6,078	4 656
Expenditure ...	8,040	6,912	5,450	6,430	7,773

There is no municipality in Zeyla.

There are nine Government sweepers, under one muccadum, who keep the town clean; these, with one lamp lighter, cost in all Rs. 2,201 1*a*. 5*p*. during the year under review.

Local conservancy fund receipts during the year under report amounted to Rs. 172 12*a*. 0*p*., and the expenditure to Rs. 71 8*a*. 0*p*.

The municipalities have no debts.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

The annual value of the trade of the British Somaliland Protectorate for the last five years is as shown below:—

Years.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1905–1906	3,927,414	3,040,980	6,968,394
1906–1907	4,168,329	3,180,885	7,349,914
1907–1908	3,349,200	3,007,557	6,356,757
1908–1909	4,049,147	3,240,964	7,290,111
1909–1910	4,254,731	3,093,785	7,348,516

The value of the imports for the year 1909-1910, including specie (Rs. 500,344), was, Rs. 4,755,075.

The value of the imports and specie imported into each port during 1909-1910 was:—

		Rs.	Rs.
Imports.			
Berbera		2,640,006	
Bulhar		743,819	
Hais		91,125	
Karam		16,694	
Zeyla		763,087	
			4,254,731
Specie.			
Berbera		163,321	
Bulhar		118,968	
Zeyla		218,055	
			500,344
Total			4,755,075

In 1909-1910 the value of exports amounted to Rs. 3,290,590, distributed as follows:—

Exports.	Rs.
Somaliland produce	3,040,250
Imported and re-exported	53,535
Specie	196,805
Total	3,290,590

Within the last few years, contemporaneously with the extension and completion of the Djibouti-Diredawa Railway, the

commerce of Zeyla with Abyssinia subsided till at length it has reached its utmost declension. From this minimum level, representing the perpetual residue, the volume occasionally rises a few degrees under the pressure of incidental or fortuitous circumstances, such as business exigencies, personal convenience, accidents to the railway, &c., which induce or impel the merchants to follow the practice of the petty traders and send their goods along the ancient and leisurely caravan route. The prevailing prosperity or poverty of the neighbouring tribesmen, the erratic visits of individual nomads from distant regions, and the practical extent of the preference evinced for the port as a more profitable and cheaper market than either Djibouti or Bulhar by those natives and foreign traders who casually frequent these towns in greater or less numbers, are permanent factors with their proportionate and variable effect on the periodic transactions. The beneficial influences being in the ascendant during the year, the foreign and local trade showed an increase of Rs. 93,397 and Rs. 52,290 respectively, the total imports and exports being Rs. 763,087 and Rs. 1,020,392 respectively. Of the items contributing to the enhancement of the imports, American grey sheetings, other cotton piece goods, rice, and jowaree are the most important, while, coincident with a favourable breeding season and the temporary absence of the Arab and African pearl and shark fishers, the shipment of coffee, sheep and goat skins, ghi, and miscellaneous articles counterbalanced the decrease of sheep and goats, pearls, mother-of-pearl shells, and a few other insignificant indigenous products.

To the unrest in the Warsangli country is attributed the comparatively great increase of Rs. 10,173 in imports and Rs. 17,235 in exports at Hais, while the total diminution of Rs. 3,298 at Karam implies a corresponding addition to the business of the adjacent entrepôt. The closure of the custom-houses at these ports will not materially affect the trade, but partly deflect it to Berbera and re-open the large interportal communication which existed before Hais became a commercial centre for the neighbouring coast and the hinterland.

The merchandise and livestock from the Ayyal Yunis and Jibril Abokr country are concentrated at this port, where commodities from Aden, augmented principally by consignments from Berbera, provide the nomad with all necessaries, of which salt, imported from Mocha and Zeyla, recently constituted the staple article of barter for jowaree at Jig-Jiga, till the Abyssinian authorities put an embargo against the export of the cereal. The prohibition has been advantageous, because many nomads were either forsaking the British town, or to effect a re-exchange at Jig-Jiga, limiting their dealings merely to the purchase of kerosine oil, cloth, and salt with the money realised from the previous disposal of their goods in Abyssinian territory. It is not extraneous competition but the business methods of the local merchants which compel the people to avail themselves of any other market when they obtain the opportunity. That all articles and foodstuffs are sold at an exorbitant price and a

system practised of granting credit for cereals at usurious rates in preference to lower cash transactions, does not conduce to the expansion of the trade, because the buyers obviously get the least return for the merchandise they have bartered or sold, and many debtors, unable to meet their obligations, avoid the town and go elsewhere. Though the region around Bulhar was unaffected by the events occurring in the hinterland of Berbera, yet the tribesmen having shared in the profits derived from the sale and hire of transport animals to the Government and other pecuniary benefits, were able to adopt a higher standard of living, and consequently the general prosperity is reflected in the increased imports, comprising mainly ready-made cotton apparel, American grey sheeting, European white long-cloth, dates, rice, and miscellaneous, aggregating Rs. 179,045 more in value than in the previous year. The local demand for ghi, the neglect of such industries as the manufacture of charcoal and collection of gums, together with less shipment of livestock to Aden, reduced the exports by Rs. 55,852 in value, viz., from Rs. 785,252 to Rs. 729,400.

The contrast between Rs. 1,350,618 in the value of the exports compared with Rs. 1,192,239 in 1909-1910, and the apparent indication in the statistics of 1909-1910 that the imports were Rs. 76,206 less than those of 1908-1909 is compatible with the involved economic and social conditions which prevailed throughout the year. In reality, after the elimination of the Fibre Company's expensive plant and machinery imported in 1908-1909, and the exclusion of the heavy Government and military requisitions during the same period, there was an appreciable increase under every article of actual trade except American grey sheetings, jowaree, kerosine oil, and dates. Large stocks of the latter goods were already stored in the shops, and the quantity of the fruit brought into the country depends less on the number of Persian dhows which call at the port. The intrinsic trade, stimulated by the high price offered for skin and hides—about 100 per cent. above the normal, the supply being much less than the demand—was considerably augmented by the adventitious increase resulting from the presence of the local and foreign garrisons and the concomitant military expenditure which, providing employment or remuneration to many natives, rendered them less dependent on their ordinary avocations and the produce of their flocks and herds for their sustenance, and enabled them to indulge in unwonted luxuries and affect alien habits. Caravans converging on Berbera halted at Badwein, El Dab, Ainabo, Wadamago, Kirrit, Ber, Ilkah Dalanleh, Burao, Galoli, Sheikh, Lower Sheikh, and Galoker, and the nomads either sold the whole of their merchandise to the assembled wholesale dealers, mostly Arabs, or unladed a portion to provide the settlers and traders with foodstuffs, such as clarified butter, or to supply them with raw material like camel and ox hide for making native shoes, or with crude local manufactures, principally fibre rope. Along the route to the remotest outpost, at convenient distance from one another, "coffee-shops" were erected, and in the huts Indian tea—always plentifully flavoured with sugar and some-

times with milk—was served to the native customers instead of its ancient prototypes, the simple infusion with hot water of the "galol," or acacia bark, or the "os damar," or donkey-grass (*Cymbopogon Commutatus*). At the coast towns, where labourers and petty traders from Aden had congregated in anticipation of an expedition, many Somalis, discarding the tobe, which within the last 20 years has replaced the "kiran," or tasselled girdle of tanned skins, ostentatiously dressed in Arab or semi-European garb and foot-gear, noticeably coloured "fotas," or loin cloths, turbans, waistcoats, and hemp-soled shoes, and, in the endeavour to exhibit their civilized equality with the Arab and Indian, a great number have become addicted to smoking tobacco, a practice formerly confined to the Issa and Gadabursi tribesmen. How great is the degeneration from the simplicity prevailing even in the year 1901 is apparent from the quantity and variety of miscellaneous goods and superfluities imported into the country. For instance, the umbrella, an anomaly alongside a camel caravan, is coming into general use, although the Somali traveller, to avoid public ridicule, unfurls it only after leaving the precincts of the town, where its possession is associated with the class of native women who introduced the fashion. Blankets are now a necessity, whereas formerly the hard ground and the sleeper's tobe wrapped round his body were considered adequate comfort and protection against any weather; to ignite a fire the "Madag," or tinder from the friction of two sticks, sufficed, but in these days the nomad requires kerosine oil and matches for the purpose. In a civilized country, with a settled population employed in agricultural arts and manufactures, the standard of material comfort is associated with advancement, but in a nomadic country it denotes deterioration and a disintegration of those austere qualities requisite for enduring a hard and precarious existence. Amidst the comparative prodigality and effeminacy prevailing amongst a notoriously covetous and parsimonious race who pride themselves on their abstemiousness, some, however, retained their innate characteristics, and prudently invested the surplus of their profits or earnings in livestock, or kept their flocks for breeding and confined their expenditure within their emoluments. They were a contrast to others who slaughtered their animals solely for the price of the hides and the residue of the meat. Thus waste counterbalancing thrift and extravagance frugality, the economic result of the wealth circulated throughout the country may be summarized as unproductive expenditure; no practical benefit has been derived from its diffusion, and of the total disbursement the Government has recovered a moiety in the form of customs-duty, and the local Indian and Arab merchants and their firms at Aden have retained the remainder. What the latter lost through advances, actually speculation in kind, the purchaser being debited 33⅓ per cent. more than the quantity of cereals, &c., actually supplied, was amply recouped by several successful transactions which added to the accumulating capital necessary for opening a business in their native countries. The divergent views of sellers and buyers with regard to the loss incurred through the existence of the trading settlements were focussed

into the personal consideration. When the nomad arrived at Berbera and learnt that he had disposed of his merchandise for much less than the market rate he considered that he had been imposed upon and was full of rancour against a state of affairs which enabled the astute stranger to wander in safety through his country and utilize the opportunity to swindle him! Unable to leave their business, the mortification of the merchants and skin-dealers over their inability to participate in the enormous profits obtainable up country was deepened by the fact that they had to accept the prices fixed for all indigenous products by the middlemen or itinerant traders, and often to repurchase from them what their Somali agents, supplied on credit with grain and cloth for the purpose, had indeed acquired and then re-exchanged for cash, with which they had absconded or crossed over to French or Abyssinian territory. The concentration of the trade at Berbera is, therefore, a popular reversion to the former condition which, according to the general opinion, provided a neutral ground where both parties, the nomad and the merchant, stood on an equal advantage, and each secured his equitable commercial rights. As the people must now resume their ordinary pursuits, undistracted and unaided by adventitious occupations and emoluments, the volume of the intrinsic trade may possibly expand, because every Somali will have to trust to his own exertions for his livelihood and, consequently, those industries wrought or undertaken under the stress of poverty will be revived in proportion to the amount necessary for mere sustenance, or to provide those luxuries which use has made necessaries. It will take some time, probably a year, before unrestrained turbulence quietens down under the compulsion of the gradually united tribesmen, but after the transitional period, when factional fights have coerced the septs who have risen to an unrecognised pre-eminence into their proper place in the nomadic social scale, and pillage enforced the pristine but obsolete caravan dues payable by each tribe while passing through the territory of another, commerce will be allowed to pursue its way in comparative safety to the British ports through a country where the only community of interest, the general exigency, confers a certain immunity on the caravan route and neutralizes it, if possible, from the consequences of any disturbances which may be occurring within the surrounding zone.

Shipping.

The shipping returns for the British Somaliland Protectorate show an increase of 128 vessels and of 15,882 tonnage.

	1908–9.		1909–10.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	1,694	89,089	1,757	77,307
Cleared	1,696	89,556	1,761	97,220

The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered and cleared during the year 1909-10 were as under:—

	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Berbera:—						
Entered	127	56,597	451	10,500	578	67,097
Cleared	127	56,597	456	10,433	583	67,030
Total	254	113,194	907	20,933	1,161	134,127
Bulhar:—						
Entered	53	6,599	362	5,352	415	11,951
Cleared	53	6,599	362	5,352	415	11,951
Total	106	13,198	724	10,704	830	23,902
Hais:—						
Entered	1	260	205	5,236	206	5,496
Cleared	1	260	204	5,216	206	5,476
Total	2	520	409	10,452	412	10,972
Zeyla:—						
Entered	54	7,802	504	4,961	558	12,763
Cleared	54	7,802	504	4,961	558	12,763
Total	108	15,604	1,008	9,922	1,116	25,526
Grand Total ...	470	142,516	3,048	52,011	3,518	194,527

Coincident with the resumption of her regular run by the coastal vessel which last year performed many extra trips to Berbera on behalf of the Government, several ships of heavy burden entered the port and, consequently, the deficiency of 22 steam vessels is counterbalanced by an additional tonnage of 14,698. The rising importance of Hais as a trading centre, and the adoption of the course viâ Berbera by many country craft bound to the north-east ports of the Protectorate, resulted in a total increase of 150 sailing vessels and 1,184 tonnage, although the temporary absence of the pearl and shark-fishing fleet reduced the number and tonnage at Zeyla by 46 and 770 respectively.

The nationality of vessels entered and cleared during 1909-1910 in the British Somaliland Protectorate is thus made up:—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	1,301	82,321	1,325	82,851
Italian	35	550	35	544
French	3	266	3	266
German	1	4,258	1	4,258
Turkish	42	2,850	41	2,729
Persian	2	206	2	206
Arab	373	6,856	354	6,366
Total	1,757	97,307	1,761	97,220

The total harbour dues collected at the port of Berbera during the year 1909-1910 are shown under the headings:—

	Amount. Rs.
Port dues or tonnage dues	3,436
Licences and monthly fees for passenger boats ...	183
Licences and monthly fees for cargo boats ...	723
Total	4,342
Total for 1908-1909	3,980
Nett increase	362

The total amount derived from registration fees at Protectorate ports during the year 1909-1910 was:—

	Amount. Rs.
Berbera, Bulhar, and Hais:—	
Registration fees	53
Miscellaneous fees	27
Zeyla:—	
Registration fees	31
Miscellaneous fees	45
Total	156

Fees charged under the Merchant Shipping Regulations during the year 1909-1910:—

	Amount. Rs.
Berbera—Bills of health	645
Other miscellaneous fees	11
Total	656

Fees charged for water supply during the year 1909-1910:—

	Amount. Rs.
Berbera—Water supply	307
Total	307

Fees collected on fire-arms stamping, and registration for the year 1909-1910:—

	Amount. Rs.
Stamping fees:—	
Berbera	195
Bulhar	—
Zeyla	2
Total	197

Fees charged at the date market during the year 1909-1910:—

	Amount. Rs.
Berbera	788
Total	788

The value of the inland trade (brought by caravans) registered at Berbera and Bulhar for the year 1909-1910 was:—

	Value. Rs.
Berbera	1,459,443
Bulhar	1,044,642
Total	2,504,085

Statement of Customs collection in the Protectorate for the year 1909-10, *compared with the year* 1908-09.

——	Import.	Export	Zariba.	Miscellaneous.	Total	Refunds	Balance.
1908–9.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Berbera and Bulhar.	174,667	143,409	33,443	6,074°	357,593	8,790	—
Zeyla ...	21,396	15,516	—	470†	37,382		
Hais and Karam.	6,894	8,969	—	72	15,935		
Total ..	202,957	167,894	33,443	6,616	410,910	8,790	402,120
1909–10.							
Berbera and Bulhar.	194,552	129,267	30,019	7,380‡	361,218	20,665	—
Zeyla ...	24,832	15,683	—	369§	40,884		
Hais and Karam.	8,440	12,091	—	116	20,647		
Total ..	227,824	157,041	30,019	7,865	422,749	20,665	402,084
Increase	24,867	—	—	1,249	11,839	11,875	—
Decrease	—	10,853	3,424	—	—	—	36

° Port dues Rs. 3,875, registration of vessels Rs. 120, and other receipts Rs. 2,079.

† Registration of vessels Rs. 14, and other receipts Rs. 456.

‡ Port dues Rs. 4,446, registration of vessels (including the Zeyla amount) Rs. 111, and other receipts Rs. 2,823.

§ Other receipts Rs. 369.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Four Ordinances were enacted during the year 1909-1910.

IV.—EDUCATION.

There are three Government schools in the Protectorate,—at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla. The pupils are children of the local Indian and Arab traders, and a few Somalis. Only Arabic is taught. There is a Roman Catholic Mission and Convent at Berbera where the Somali children receive free education.

The average attendance at the various schools is as follows:—

Berbera	117
Bulhar	48
Zeyla	29

The cost of upkeep during the year was Rs. 1,602 2*a*. 5*p*.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

A civil general hospital is situated at each of the three principal coast towns, namely, at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla. At Berbera there are also an isolation hospital for tubercular patients, and a single-ward building for the accommodation of small-pox patients. A disinfecting station, furnished with a Clayton disinfector, and consisting of two rooms and caretaker's hut, is situated conveniently in the harbour.

At Bulhar and Zeyla temporary matting huts are put up, as required, for the accommodation of any contagious cases.

The inland, or up-country hospitals, are situated at Sheikh and Burao respectively. Both are camp hospitals only, medical aid being given to the Political outposts by the medical Officer stationed at Sheikh, assisted, where there is urgency, by the military medical officer from Burao.

The number of civil patients treated during the year was 32,723 as against 17,012 in 1908. This very considerable increase was in great measure due to the generosity of the military medical officers at their different posts, who dealt with as many patients as they could beyond their official duties.

The number of indoor patients was 385 as against 542 last year. There were 21 deaths in hospital, giving a percentage of 5·4 deaths to those admitted to hospital.

The following table shows the locality and particulars of those treated:—

Locality.	Cases treated.	Admitted to hospital.	Deaths.
Berbera	18,912	206	9
Bulhar	3,835	49	5
Zeyla	3,808	100	1
Sheikh	1,371	30	1
Burao and neighbourhood	4,797	—	5

The General Hospital at Berbera consists of three wards, containing in all 42 beds. The accommodation is arranged so that there are two partitioned-off cubicles each containing two beds, and one containing four beds, in the ward allotted to women; a general ward; and a police and prisoners' ward. During the year an operating room and stores have been added to the dispensary and office rooms, which have also been rebuilt. Although not large, the rooms are sufficient to meet the present actual requirements, the store being also used as an analytical laboratory.

Subordinates' quarters are situated to the rear of the hospital for the hospital assistant in charge and the servants.

The Isolation Hospital.—This consists of one large ward and five small ones. These, together with the necessary offices and a couple of stone terraces suitable for a patients' lounge during the day, are enclosed within a boundary wall, and stand on a hill about $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles from the town. The hospital has accommodation for 40 beds. Through insufficiency of funds, it has, however, been unused this year. Neither has it yet been found convenient to lay on a water supply—the carriage of water by mule transport being the chief cost in the running expenses. At the time of writing (April, 1910) this hospital has been given over for military purposes, to be disposed of as may be found advisable.

The Infectious Diseases Hospital is a single-roomed building, partially surrounded by a wall, on the south-eastern extremity of the town. It has a sand floor and thatched roof, and is chiefly used for small-pox patients.

The Quarantine Station is placed on a spit of sand forming the outer boundary of the harbour. It is a hard area of flat ground in the immediate neighbourhood to the "Clayton" disinfector. The disinfector, with special room for baggage or freight to be disinfected, and an attendant's hut, is under the charge of a watchman.

The Bulhar Hospital consists of a single-ward building with dispensary under the same roof. There are six beds. Latrine accommodation is provided at the rear of the hospital. Resident quarters for the hospital assistant are situated near.

The Zeyla Hospital is a room in the Fort, capable of holding six beds. A dispensary and operating room are adjoining.

No proper lunatic asylum exists. A room in the jail is occasionally requisitioned when necessary.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The following table shows the strength and distribution of police, mounted and foot, on March 31st, 1910:—

Foot Police.

Station.	Superintendent of police.	Jemadars.	Non-commissioned officers and men.
Zeyla	—	2	67
Berbera and Bulbar	1	3	137
Karam and Hais	—	1	25
Total	1	6	229

Mounted Police.

Station.	Superintendent of police.	Jemadars.	Non-commissioned officers and men.
Berbera and Bulbar	—	1	35
Zeyla	—	1	10
Total	—	2	45

The police force of the Berbera, Bulhar, Hais, and Karam districts is under the District Officer, Berbera, to whom the Superintendent of Police is responsible.

There were 681 summary convictions in the subordinate court and one conviction in the higher court during 1909-1910:—

Years.	Cases reported.	Convictions or committals.
1905-1906	1,457	1,241
1906-1907	1,569	1,392
1907-1908	1,489	1,201
1908-1909	1,165	939
1909-1910	879	686

Of these 879 cases, 139 appear under the head of "Other Offences," which include breaches of local rules and other minor offences, leaving 740 cases under the heading "Crime."

A comparative statement of serious crimes is appended:—

	Convictions, 1908-1909.	Convictions, 1909-1910.
Rape	—	—
Murder	—	1
Robbery and theft	242	147
Grievous hurt	2	7
Forgery	—	3
Sedition	—	2
Breach of fire-arms regulations	1	—
Attempted murder	1	—

The convictions in the Protectorate Court and District Courts for the last five years are as follows:—

Years.	Protectorate Court.	District Courts.
1905-1906	3	1,225
1906-1907	4	1,388
1907-1908	3	1,198
1908-1909	2	939
1909-1910	1	685

The Protectorate Court returns show cases tried before His Majesty's Commissioner, and the District Court figures represent cases tried in the District and subordinate Courts of Berbera and Bulhar.

The criminal statistics of Zeyla show 119 cases tried by the Magistrate in Zeyla during the year under report. There has, therefore, been a decrease of 33 cases as compared with the preceding year.

There was one appeal against the decision of the Zeyla Magistrate, and the criminal conviction was quashed by His Majesty's Commissioner.

As a matter of fact, there is no criminal population in Zeyla. Most of the offences committed are assaults, petty thefts, and breach of local rules, and are not of a serious character. Bad characters turn up occasionally from Djibouti and Berbera.

During the year 456 prisoners were convicted by the Berbera and Bulhar Courts. Prisoners sentenced by military and political Courts are detained in coast jails, but cases tried by those courts are not included in the ordinary criminal returns.

The following table shows the number of escapes in Berbera and Bulhar during the past three years:—

Year.	Escapes.	Re-captures.
1907-1908	2	—
1908-1909	—	—
1909-1910	9	3

The daily average of convicted prisoners in Berbera and Bulhar jails was 84 as against 157 in 1908-1909.

One death took place amongst the prisoners during the year.

The cost of maintenance of prisoners amounted to Rs. 10,982 10*p.* only.

The Zeyla jail is a small coral building roofed with corrugated iron sheeting, and is under the direct supervision of the District Officer.

It has not been found possible to render the labour of the prisoners remunerative. Most of the so-called political prisoners are simply detained pending the restitution of stock looted by them or by their relations, and their expenses while so detained are recovered, when possible, from their tribes.

Civil prisoners are not required to work, but are merely taken out for exercise. Their expenses while detained in prison are, as a rule, recovered from the judgment creditor at whose instance they are detained.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Return of the Statistics of Population for the year.

—	European and Whites.	Somalis.	Indians	Arabs.	Mixed.
No. of inhabitants in 1908 (approximate).	87	300,000	200	300	100
Births, 1909			(Unknown.)		
Deaths, 1909			(Unknown.)		
Immigrants, 1909	1	3,488	—	—	—
Emigrants, 1909	10	2,824	—	—	—
Inhabitants, 1909	78	300,624	200	300	100
Increase	—	624	—	—	—
Decrease	9	—	—	—	—

No census has ever actually been taken. The population appears to be increasing at a slightly improved rate, probably owing to their increase in animal wealth under British protection.

The above calculation is exclusive of troops.

The general public health has been satisfactory. The great increase of the number of patients treated has been due to the facilities offered to the natives of obtaining simple remedies, such as sulphur, &c., from the medical officers stationed with the troops inland, where a large number of the natives suffer from scabies.

A Sanitary Board has been formed under the orders of His Majesty's Commissioner, Sir William Manning, K.C.M.G., C.B., who has also directed a daily routine examination of all matters connected with the jail management.

A dental surgeon has visited the Protectorate during the year at Government expense. It is hoped that this may be continued in future years, as attention shown to this matter often considerably affects the health of the officers.

Watering facilities, for natives, and for their animals, have been provided at a more convenient site than formerly, and by this means withdrawing many of the natives from the European part of the town.

Sanitation.

Salubrity of the occupied locations.—This consists in the simple avoidance during the summer months of the excessive heat present on the coast belt. The summer heat is such that while a dry condition persists there is little or no disease.

Water supply.—At Berbera the water is drawn from springs some seven miles from the town. The water at its source is from 95 to 105 F. when it issues from the spring. The supply is usually ample.

Sanitary measures taken during the year.—A Sanitary Board has been formed to deal with the existing conditions, and is working satisfactorily. General Sir William Manning, K.C.M.G., C.B., His Majesty's Commissioner, has approved all united proposals made by this Board.

Over-crowding.—Local conditions preclude any such state among the natives in times of peace.

Death-rates among the different classes.—There is no possible means of deciding this question at the present time, as the death-rate is unknown.

Quarantine —This is provided for by the Quarantine Station and " Clayton " disinfector mentioned under Hospitals (p. 16).

Climate.

The coast belt of the country is of an unusually dry and arid type. Vegetation for the first 15 miles or so from the coast consists of low scrub bushes only, except for the few made gardens in the European parts of the town.

The fine sand which is held in the air during the summer months precludes flies or mosquitoes; in fact, during that part of the year no winged insects are probably able to live from this condition.

There being no recording instrument for wind velocity in the country, this information cannot be given with exactitude.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
614	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1908–1909
615	Bahamas	,,
616	St. Lucia	1908
617	Hong Kong	,,
618	Fiji	,,
619	Nyasaland	1908–1909
620	Barbados	,,
621	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
622	Straits Settlements	1908
623	Somaliland	1908–1909
624	Mauritius	1908
625	St. Vincent	1908–1909
626	Jamaica	,,
627	Swaziland	,,
628	Grenada	1908
629	Leeward Islands	1908–1909
630	Southern Nigeria	1908
631	British Honduras	,,
632	British Guiana	1908–1909
633	Northern Nigeria	,,
634	Basutoland	,,
635	East Africa Protectorate	,,
636	Uganda	,,
637	Weihaiwei	1909
638	St. Helena	,,
639	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
640	Ashanti	,,
641	Gambia	,,
642	Malta	1909–1910
643	Seychelles	1909
644	Colonial Survey Committee	1909–1910
645	Falkland Islands	1909
646	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
647	Gibraltar	,,
648	Sierra Leone	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
65	Uganda	Sleeping Sickness.
66	Gold Coast	Forests.
67	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
68	Do. do.	Do. 1906–7.
69	St. Helena	Fisheries.
70	Colonies	List of Laws relating to Patents, Trade Marks, &c.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.

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1919.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 690.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1910-11.

(For Report for 1909–10, *see* No. 649.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

October, 1911.

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No. 690.

SOMALILAND.

(For Report for 1909–10, *see* No. 649.)

THE ACTING COMMISSIONER to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Commissioner's Office, Berbera,
11th August, 1911.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Somaliland Protectorate for the year ended on the 31st March, 1911.

I have, &c.,

R. E. SALKELD.

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

(21503—2.) Wt. 31959—459. 1125 & 85. 10/11. D & S.

REPORT ON THE SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1910-1911.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The estimated revenue for 1910-1911 was £22,536; the actual revenue was £30,862, showing an increase over the estimate of £8,326, a decrease below the revenue for 1909-1910 of £522, but an increase over the revenue for 1908-1909 of £536.

It will be seen from the comparative statements of revenue that the following heads of revenue show increases in 1910-1911:—Miscellaneous Receipts £564, and Unclaimed Deposits £20.

The following heads of revenue show decreases as compared with the previous year:—Customs £153, Port and Harbour Dues £120, Licences and Internal Revenue £601, Fees of Court and Office, &c., £115, and Post Office and Telegraphs £16.

Under Customs, import of rice, kerosene oil, and country grey sheeting increased. The principal decreases in imports were in dates, cotton, and other piece goods, jowaree (millet) and other kinds of grain, such as gram and maize. The export of ghee, sheep and goat skins, live stock, hides, gum, and pearls showed an increase, whilst there were decreases in the export of coffee, mother-of-pearl shells, and ostrich feathers.

The increase in the import of rice is attributable to the fact that there was a large amount of money in circulation as a result of the expenditure in the maintenance of the reinforcements which were in the Protectorate during the previous year, this money being expended by the natives in the year under review for large purchases of this their staple article of food. Increases in the export of ghee and live stock are attributable to the fact that whereas in 1909-1910 these were used locally for the feeding of the troops, there was no local market for them in 1910-1911, and they were then brought to the coast for export. Increases in the export of skins, gum, hides, &c., are mainly accounted for by the fact that the native found it impossible to bring these to the coast in the previous year, his transport camels being in that year hired out for military transport at very remunerative rates to himself.

It is not anticipated that the revenue in future years, under present circumstances, will show such satisfactory returns as those for 1910-1911, as the friendly tribes, which are mainly responsible for the amount of Customs revenue collected, are occupied by intertribal disputes. Such a state of affairs must necessarily affect the revenue of the Protectorate.

The increases and decreases under the other heads of revenue are due almost entirely to the withdrawal from the interior.

The figures for the last five years are appended for comparison:—

	£
1906-7	38,388
1907-8	28,607
1908-9	30,326
1909-10	31,384
1910-11	30,862

It has been deemed advisable in the year under review to classify the expenditure as "normal" and "abnormal," the former showing approximately the anticipated future annual recurring expenditure of the Protectorate, and the latter being mainly due to claims which arose prior to the withdrawal, but which were not settled until 1910-1911.

The total estimated expenditure for the year was £126,615, of which £37,513 ranked as "normal" and £89,102 as "abnormal."

The estimated expenditure under all heads in 1909-1910 was £223,819.

The actual expenditure for 1910-1911 amounted in all to £99,223, as compared with £192,839 expended during the previous year.

Considering the fact that several heads of expenditure which appeared in 1909-1910 disappeared from the Estimates for the year under review, a comparison between the sums expended under the various heads of the Estimates for the two years would not be of much value. The disbandment of the 6th Battalion King's African Rifles effected a saving under "normal" expenditure of £36,561, and the abolition of the Political Department resulted in a further saving of nearly £14,000.

Included in the expenditure classified as "abnormal" there is an item of £715, being part of the cost of stamping out an epidemic of small-pox which broke out towards the end of the financial year, and which was very virulent in the towns of Berbera and Bulhar.

Taxation.—There were no important changes in taxation during the year 1910-1911.

The total amount of surplus assets at March 31st, 1911, was £60,318, as compared with £27,079 at March 31st, 1910.

Against the sum of £60,318 an amount of £24,600 has been appropriated to meet the deficit between the estimated revenue and expenditure for the year 1911-1912. A further sum of £25,000 will be required to meet a claim for compensation, which was estimated to amount to £15,000, but was ultimately settled for the former amount. A supplementary estimate which is being prepared for 1911-1912 will probably absorb a further sum of £1,500, thus leaving an estimated surplus of assets over liabilities at March 31st, 1912, of £218.

The currency of Somaliland Protectorate is based upon the Indian rupee. A few Government of India notes are in circulation, and the British sovereign is also accepted in small quantities at the coast.

There are no banks doing business in the Protectorate, but a private firm, Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, accept deposits from private individuals, cashing cheques drawn against them.

Municipal.

A municipal fund only exists in Berbera. Revenue controlled by the District Officer, Berbera, is obtained from the following sources:—

1. Sweeping and hut tax.
2. Nuisance fines.

The tax is paid by everyone who has a house or hut in the town of Berbera, and the fines are collected from people committing a nuisance within a limited area.

The tax is only levied at Berbera, but fines are inflicted both at Zeyla and Bulhar.

The establishment maintained is as follows:—

1 Tax Collector at Rs. 35 per mensem.
1 Assistant Collector at Rs. 25 per mensem.
1 Muccadum at Rs. 27 per mensem.
15 Sweepers at Rs. 16, 15, and 12 per mensem.
6 Watchmen at Rs. 12 per mensem.

Revenue during 1910-1911 amounted to Rs. 5,150, showing an increase of Rs. 494 on last year. There was a decrease of Rs. 790 in expenditure.

A comparative statement of revenue and expenditure for the last five years is shown below:—

——	1906–1907.	1907–1908.	1908–1909.	1909–1910.	1910–1911.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue	7,880	8,205	6,078	4,656	5,150
Expenditure ...	6,912	5,450	6,430	7,773	6,983

There is no municipality in Zeyla.

There are nine Government sweepers under one muccadum who keep the town clean; these, with one lamplighter, cost in all Rs. 2,110 during the year under review.

Local conservancy fund receipts during the year under report amounted to Rs. 80, and the expenditure to Rs. 88.

The municipalities have no debts.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

The annual value of the trade of the British Somaliland Protectorate for the last five years is as shown below:—

Years.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1906–1907	4,168,329	3,180,885	7,349,214
1907–1908	3,349,200	3,007,557	6,356,757
1908–1909	4,049,147	3,240,964	7,290,111
1909–1910	4,254,731	3,093,785	7,348,516
1910–1911	3,686,925	3,466,504	7,153,429

Imports.

The value of the imports for the year 1910-1911, including specie (Rs. 320,820), was Rs. 4,007,745.

The value of imports and specie imported into each port during 1910-1911 was:—

		Rs.	Rs.
Imports.			
Berbera		1,822,577	
Bulhar		859,216	
Zeyla		1,005,132	
			3,686,925
Specie.			
Berbera		21,000	
Bulhar		73,169	
Zeyla		226,651	
			320,820
Total			4,007,745

Exports.

In 1910-1911 the value of exports amounted to Rs. 3,709,996 distributed as follows:—

Exports.	Rs.
Somaliland produce	3,180,124
Imported and re-exported	286,380
Specie	243,492
Total	3,709,996

In anticipation of a military expedition, the merchants of Berbera and Bulhar had stored American grey sheetings during the previous year; the disturbed state in the interior resulted in less consumption of the goods, and hence the imports this year show a decrease of Rs. 98,583 at those two ports. Zeyla, however, shows an increase of Rs. 19,175, which was mainly due to demands from Harrar.

To the same reason is due the decrease of 417,851 yards of Europe white long-cloth at Berbera and Bulhar, and an increase of 43,140 yards at Zeyla. The total decrease at both the former ports is Rs. 67,529, and the increase at the latter is Rs. 9,513, when compared with the year 1909-1910.

Country grey sheeting has since long been superseded by the more durable article, but it sometimes occurs among the items of import. This year 39,000 yards were imported at Berbera, and 2,032 yards at Zeyla, which shows that, on rare occasions, it is imported for its cheapness, but when the natives do not consume the article no further consignments take place.

The ready-made apparel shows a decrease of Rs. 26,602 at Berbera and Bulhar; the natives consider it more as ornamental than durable, and get their apparel made locally in preference.

The quantity of cotton and silk piece goods mostly depends upon the general prosperity of the country. There is no demand

for costly silk goods in this country. During the year under report cotton piece goods worth Rs. 200,231, and silk piece goods worth Rs. 2,094, were imported for sale, showing a decrease of Rs. 50,165 in the former and Rs. 3,039 in the latter, when compared with the previous year.

Owing to the absence of the military force, and owing to decrease of income to Arab and other merchants, who limited their ration expenses to their earnings, the value of flour imported during the year decreased to Rs. 55,049, contrasted with Rs. 61,698 in the year 1909-1910.

The abnormal increase in the imports of rice to the extent of 70,981 cwts., amounting to the value of Rs. 442,547, at all the three ports in the Protectorate, is principally due to less imports of dates. Most of the Persian Gulf dhows, having found a more profitable market there, sailed direct to India. The rest who came to Aden had consignments barely sufficient for the countries which depend upon Aden for their supplies, and therefore got a readier market there. A few came over here direct, with total consignments amounting to Rs. 233,933, showing a decrease of Rs. 179,581 this year. The unrest in the interior of Zeyla brought the nomads in excessive numbers to dispose of their commercial commodities; the harmony between the Esa and other tribes residing without the British limits, and the prohibition by the Abyssinian Government of the barter of jowaree for kerosene oil and salt, contributed to the increase at Zeyla in dates, grain, and piece goods. Dates show an import of 6,065 cwts. this year, as against 4,506 cwts. during 1909-1910.

A less preference for jowaree is implied by the decrease of 11,134 cwts. in this item at Berbera and Bulhar.

The apparently great decrease of Rs. 205,987 in other kinds of grains at Berbera is explained by the absence of the military, who consumed large quantities during the previous years for rations of Government animals.

The winding up of a large number of coffee-shops in the interior, and the absence of the military, have been the chief causes for the decrease in the import of sugar and tea at Berbera, which was as follows:—

—	1909–1910.		1910–1911.	
	Cwts.	Rs.	Cwts.	Rs.
Sugar	12,434	112,857	10,888	102,015
Tea	51,454	26,846	40,267	20,626

At Bulhar and Zeyla, however, the prevailing features were the same as in the previous years, and the increased demands from the interior augmented the imports, which show an increase of Rs. 26,832, and 2,187 in sugar and tea respectively.

A decrease also appears under the following:—

	Decrease. Rs.
Animals living	29,153
Ammunition	1,629
Arms	13,981
Building materials	3,780
Beads	1,384
Drugs and medicines	14,696
Earthen and glassware	2,467
Jute bags	6,961
Saddlery	5,307
Machinery	22,685
Malt liquors	1,852
Tobacco	8,113
Miscellaneous	12,007

Most of the decreases are due to the absence of the military, and are augmented to some extent by the disturbed condition of the interior. The total imports of merchandise amounted to Rs. 3,686,925, as against Rs. 4,254,731 for the year 1909-1910, showing a net decrease of £567,806.

The decrease of Rs. 179,524 in the value of specie imported is partly due to less imports of Maria Theresa dollars for circulation in Abyssinia.

The value of live stock and merchandise exported this year was Rs. 3,466,504, as against Rs. 3,093,785 for the year 1909-1910, showing an increase of Rs. 372,719.

The chief articles which constituted the increase are mentioned below:—

	Increase. Rs.
Animals living	65,505
Bones	1,504
Butter	135,856
Charcoal	2,486
Fibre	3,640
Gums	25,055
Hides	29,617
Guano	2,964
Pearls	11,499
Salt	648
Skins, sheep and goats	108,019
Tallow	1,413
Miscellaneous	90,188

There was a demand for all the cereals produced in this Protectorate; the natives, too, had to resume their ordinary pursuits, being unaided by the profitable and lucrative occupations open to them in recent years. The value of the export trade has thus naturally increased as anticipated in last year's report. When the tribal feuds in the hinterland of Berbera cease the commerce will gradually increase, the caravans being safely allowed to pass from the interior to the British ports.

The only items of export which show a decrease in this year are the following:—

	Decrease. Rs.
Coffee	85,578
Feathers	2,639
Fish	1,563
Shells, mother-of-pearl...	14,902

The sale by the principal merchant of Zeyla of a competitive steamer, which was chiefly freighted with the imports and exports of the owner, led to the diversion of the commercial commodities, produce of Harrar and Abyssinia, to Djibouti, owing to the facilities afforded by the Djibouti-Diredowa Railway. The export of coffee from Zeyla has fallen off owing to this reason; the unexpected find of pearls in the waters of the Protectorate turned the attention of many fishing-smack owners to pearl-fishing, which has led to a decrease in the export of fish and shells.

The ports of Hais and Karam were abolished in the year under report. Since then Customs duty on goods imported and exported from all the ports north-east of Berbera was charged at Berbera, all the vessels touching at the latter port for paying import and export duty. The total value of imports was Rs. 170,065, and exports Rs. 160,991, which figures are included in the Berbera statistics.

Shipping.

The shipping returns for the Protectorate show a decrease of 273 vessels and 57,887 tonnage.

—	1909–1910.		1910–1911.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	1,757	97,307	1,626	68,190
Cleared	1,761	97,220	1,619	68,540

The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered and cleared during the year 1910-1911 were as under:—

—	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Berbera—						
Entered	120	32,130	486	10,014	606	42,144
Cleared	120	32,130	496	10,367	616	42,497
Total	240	64,260	982	20,381	1,222	84,641

	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Bulhar—						
Entered	55	7,560	366	5,293	421	12,853
Cleared	55	7,560	366	5,293	421	12,853
Total	110	15.120	732	10,586	842	25,706
Zeyla—						
Entered	54	7,894	545	5,299	599	13,193
Cleared	54	7,894	528	5,206	582	13,100
Total	108	15,788	1,073	10,505	1,181	26,293
Grand Total ...	458	95,168	2,787	41,472	3,245	136,640

The less numerous arrivals of date-bugalows, and the abolition of Hais as a separate port, resulted in a decrease of 261 sailing vessels of 10,539 tonnage. During the year under report few heavy steamships entered the ports for Government and military purposes, unlike the previous years, and the coastal vessel also had not to perform extra trips on behalf of the Government. The decrease of 12 steam vessels of 47,348 tonnage is due to the above reasons.

The nationality of vessels entered and cleared during 1910-1911 in the Protectorate is as follows:—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	1,291	61,395	1,288	61,416
Italian	28	538	29	561
French	2	12	2	12
Turkish	63	1,830	63	2,155
Arab	240	4,415	237	4,306
Total	1,626	68,190	1,619	68,450

The total harbour dues collected at the port of Berbera during the year 1910-1911 are shown under the headings:—

	Amount. Rs.
Port dues or tonnage dues	1,686
Licences and monthly fees for passenger boats...	269
Licences and monthly fees for cargo boats ...	548
Total	2,503
Total for 1909-1910	4,342
Net decrease	1,839

The total amount derived from registration fees at Protectorate ports during the year 1910-1911 was:—

	Amount. Rs.
Berbera and Bulhar, registration fees	6
Miscellaneous fees	42
Zeyla, registration fees	109
Miscellaneous fees	20
Total	177

Fees charged under the Merchant Shipping Regulations during the year 1910-1911:—

	Amount. Rs.
Berbera, bills of health	735
Other miscellaneous fees	2
Total	737

Fees charged for water supply during the year 1910-11:—

	Amount. Rs.
Berbera water supply	191
Total	191

Fees collected on fire-arms stamping and registration for the year 1910-11:—

	Amount.
Stamping fees:—	
Berbera	30
Bulhar	6
Zeyla	1
Total	37

Fees charged at the date market during the year 1910-11:—

	Amount. Rs.
Berbera	484
Total	484

The value of the inland trade registered at Berbera and Bulhar for the year 1910-11 was:—

	Value. Rs.
Berbera	1,278,502
Bulhar	1,335,540
Total	2,614,042

STATEMENT OF CUSTOMS COLLECTION IN THE PROTECTORATE FOR THE YEAR 1910-11, COMPARED WITH THE YEAR 1909-10.

—	Import.	Export.	Zariba.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Refund.	Balance.
1909–10.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Berbera and Bulhar.	194,552	129,267	30,019	7,380*	361,218	20,665	—
Zeyla ...	24,832	15,683	—	369†	40,884		
Hais and Karam.	8,440	12,091	—	116	20,647		
Total ...	227,824	157,041	30,019	7,865	422,749	20,665	402,084
1910–11.							
Berbera and Bulhar.	183,106	149,694	30,026	5,909‡	368,735	3,228	—
Zeyla ...	35,398	17,569	—	512§	53,479		
Total ...	218,504	167,283	30,026	6,421	422,214	3,228	418,986
Increase ...	—	10,222	7	—	—	—	16,902
Decrease	9,320	—	—	1,444	535	17,437	—

* Port dues, Rs. 4,446, registration of vessels (including the Zeyla amount) Rs. 111, and other receipts Rs. 2,823.
† Other receipts Rs. 369.
‡ Port dues Rs. 2,503, registration of vessels (including the Zeyla amount) Rs. 177, and other receipts Rs. 3,229.
§ Other receipts Rs. 512.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Four Ordinances were enacted during the year 1910-11.

IV.—EDUCATION.

There are three Government schools in the Protectorate—at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla.

The pupils are children of the local Indian and Arab traders, and a few Somalis. Only Arabic is taught.

The average attendance at the various schools is as follows:—Berbera 109, Bulhar 31, Zeyla 40.

The cost of upkeep during the year was Rs. 1,544.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

The Government institutions dealt with under this Report are:—

(a) *Hospitals.*—A general hospital is situated at each of the three principal coast towns, namely Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla. A disinfecting station, furnished with a "Clayton" disinfector, exists at Berbera.

The withdrawal of the troops from the interior necessitated the closing of the camp hospitals at Burao and Sheik, and has led to the necessary abandonment of the Isolation Hospital for tubercular disease and the smallpox hut, which were outside the limits of the town of Berbera.

Matting huts were erected, as required, to meet a smallpox epidemic, at each of the three towns. These huts were found to answer the purpose well, as the climate is a very dry one.

The number of admissions to the hospitals was 347. The number of deaths in hospital was 9.

The above figures are exclusive of 698 cases with 139 deaths from smallpox treated at the smallpox camps.

(b) *Dispensaries.*—There are three dispensaries, one being attached to each of the three coast hospitals. The attendance during the year totalled 23,151.

(c) *Asylums.*—No asylums exist. In the case of criminal lunatics, provision is made by utilising a small ward in the jail under medical supervision.

(d) There are three State-aided schools, one at each of the three chief towns. The scholars have not in the past been registered, being allowed to attend when they chose. The figures obtainable are:—

	Scholars.	Percentage of daily attendance.
Berbera	114	94
Bulhar	450	28
Zeyla	41	6

The teaching at these schools consists in learning to read and write Arabic only. The schoolmaster's house does not also act as a residence for the pupils. Up to the present time no routine examination of the children for enlarged spleens has been conducted; nor has the organisation been used as a distributing centre for quinine. The matter will be further dealt with under the subject of malarial prophylaxis.

(e) *Laboratories.*—At Berbera Hospital a room is available for the purpose; this was built last year. During the present year work has been done to purchase some scientific apparatus and fittings. Ordinary blood examinations and urine testing have been carried out, and apparatus is still needed for proper bacteriological investigation.

(f) *Municipal and Town Council.*—There is nothing to report under this head. The work of the Sanitary Board is referred to later.

The Medical Service.—This consists of two medical officers assisted by three sub-assistant surgeons, the latter having received their qualifications in India. Native Somalis are employed as hospital servants. There are no special health officers or registered medical practitioners.

VI.—POLICE AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The following table shows the strength and distribution of police, mounted and foot, on March 31st, 1911:—

FOOT POLICE.

Station.	Chief of police.	Native Officer.	Non-commissioned officers and men.
Berbera and Bulhar	1	2	93

MOUNTED POLICE.

Station.	Chief of police.	Colour Sergeant.	Non-commissioned officers and men.
Berbera and Bulhar	—	1	24

There were 697 summary convictions in the subordinate court, and 2 convictions in the higher court during 1910-11.

A comparative statement of cases reported to the Berbera and Bulhar courts during the year is appended:—

Years.	Cases reported.	Convictions or committals.
1906-7	1,569	1,392
1907-8	1,489	1,201
1908-9	1,165	939
1909-10	879	686
1910-11	732	699

Of the 732 cases in 1910-11 577 appear under the head of "other offences," which include breaches of local rules and other minor offences, leaving 175 cases under the heading "crime."

A comparative statement of serious crimes is appended:—

Crime.	Convictions 1909-10	Convictions 1910-11.
Rape	0	0
Murder	1	0
Robbery and thefts	147	214
Grievous hurt	7	2
Forgery	3	0
Sedition	2	0
Breaches of fire-arms regulations	0	42
Attempted murder	0	0

The convictions in the Protectorate court and district courts for the last five years are as follows:—

Years.	Protectorate Court.	District Courts.
1906-7	4	1,388
1907-8	3	1,198
1908-9	2	939
1909-10	1	685
1910-11	2	697

The Protectorate court returns show cases before His Majesty's Commissioner, and the district courts figures represent cases tried in the district and subordinate courts of Berbera and Bulhar.

The criminal statistics show 131 cases tried by the magistrate in Zeyla during the year under review. There has been an increase of 12 cases as compared with the preceding year.

As a matter of fact there is no criminal population in Zeyla. Most of the offences committed are assaults, petty thefts, and breaches of local rules, and are not of a serious character. Bad characters turn up occasionally from Djibouti and Berbera.

During the year 672 prisoners were convicted by the Berbera and Bulhar courts.

The following table shows the number of escapes in Berbera and Bulhar during the past three years:—

Years.	Escapes.	Recaptures
1908-1909	—	—
1909-1910	9	3
1910-1911	8	1

The daily average of convicted prisoners in Berbera and Bulhar jails was 155 as against 84 in 1909-1910.

Four deaths took place amongst the prisoners during the year.

The cost of maintenance of prisoners amounted to Rs. 14,518.

The Zeyla jail is a small coral building roofed with corrugated iron sheeting, and is under the direct supervision of the District Officer.

It has not been found possible to render the labour of the prisoners remunerative. Most of the so-called political prisoners are simply detained pending the restitution of stock looted by them or by their relatives, and their expenses while so detained are recovered, when possible, from their tribes.

Civil prisoners are not required to work, but are merely taken out for exercise. Their expenses while detained in prison are, as a rule, recovered from the judgment creditor at whose instance they are detained.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

RETURN OF THE STATISTICS OF POPULATION FOR THE YEAR.

—		Europeans and whites.	Somalis.	Indians.	Arabs.	Mixed.
Number of inhabitants	1909	78	300,000	200	300	100*
Births	1910	0	—	—	—	—†
Deaths	1910	0	—	—	—	—†
Immigrants	1910	0	2,853	—	—	—
Emigrants	1910	0	3,013	—	—	—
Inhabitants	1910	20	300,000	200	300	100

* Approximate. † Unknown.

No census of the population has ever been taken.

The population is probably about stationary, owing to tribal disturbances affecting the general mortality. The country under present conditions is capable of sustaining a limited population only, owing to the limited water supply and lack of agriculture.

The general state of the public health is good. There are comparatively few diseases met with, and these seldom of a virulent type. As regards the prevalence of sickness at the different seasons, it may be said that except for anæmia there are no summer diseases. Malarial diseases and pneumonia are the chief ailments of the winter.

The Sanitary Board.—The powers and work of this Board, which was created by Sir William Manning, were confined to the European residential area of the town of Berbera. The Board has assembled from time to time for the purpose of presenting advisory reports to His Majesty's Commissioner on sanitary affairs and matters relating to malarial prophylaxis. The Board made inspections of certain wells and tanks, latrine accommodation, and the jail, and advised thereon.

The cleaning of the native town has been under the controlling supervision of the District Officer, who holds this power at each of the three towns. The work cannot be described as a definite malarial prophylaxis, as no attempt is made in the direction of limiting the number of wells which are dug and often abandoned. Nor are these wells made subject to periodic examination, or to any defined control.

This work is altogether insufficient to prevent outbreaks of an epidemic character, and the recent epidemic of smallpox calls for more definite prophylactic measures. Such measures would be accomplished probably by the formation of a Municipal Board, which it is hoped may soon be found practicable.

The public works that have been conducted during the year dealing with malarial prophylaxis, are as follows:—

Gauze protection to the main water storage tank, at a cost of £20. Drainage works, conducted at a cost of £2 16*s.*, of somewhat trivial nature. Reclamation of foreshore works, for which

there is a grant of £20. Four open cement tanks, situated in gardens were abolished at a trivial cost; some petty ventilation works cost £2 6*s*.

No specified body of men is employed in mosquito destruction, but an organised body of road and house sweepers exists. The cost of the upkeep of these men at the three towns amounts to the sum of £822 per year.

A routine examination of persons suffering from malaria is conducted, and any enlargement of the spleen is noted. It may be stated that splenic enlargement is quite uncommon as a rule, just as the usual malarial attack is of a distinctly mild form, and occurs at all only during a very limited period of the year. It is a great deal owing to this fact that the public distribution of quinine, other than at the hospitals, is practically not called for. Occasionally exceptions are made, but the annual consumption of quinine is altogether only some 10 to 12 lbs. for the whole coast.

Sanitation.

Water Supply.—At Berbera water is brought to the town and supplied by public fountains. The water is drawn from springs 9 miles distant, and is at a temperature of 95 to 100 degrees Fahrenheit at the springs. It is conducted through iron pipes after being partially cooled in depositing tanks.

The other towns are supplied from wells at a distance, the water being conveyed in skin bags to the consumers.

The water at all the coast towns is more or less brackish, and is on occasion liable to produce severe colic and diarrhœa from mineral impurities and earths.

Quarantine.—Restrictions were employed to prevent the spread of cholera from Perim Island and the Arabian coast. These measures were effective, and no cases have occurred of that disease.

Housing of the Poor.—No special works were undertaken during the year. The poorhouse formerly existing had to be demolished in the making of Government defensive positions.

Prevention of Overcrowding.—The Somali has still to learn the proper use of a house for shelter from cold, wind, and dew, and for the protection of his women and children from the ravages of hyaenas. He lives chiefly in the open air by day and night. His hut is made of grass mats and sticks, occasionally plastered with mud, and is of such slight construction that it can usually be demolished and carried away on a camel at a few hours' notice. The huts of the poorer Somalis are usually about 12 feet by 8 feet, and the only cleansing agent they know is the smoke of the smouldering fire which they use for cooking their food. The saving quality of these huts is that they cannot last longer than three or four years.

Municipal and Town Councils.—There are at present no such Councils in the country, the Administration having so far considered it advisable to interfere as little as possible with the habits of the natives. The work of these bodies is conducted in the smaller towns by the Resident District Officer, and at Berbera by the Sanitary Board. The work of the Board since its inception has been mainly the supervision of

the preventive measures adopted against malaria, and is given under the special works conducted against that disease. The other duties of the Board have been the destruction of rubbish in the neighbourhood of the European quarter of the town, and the care and regulation of the prison and the dieting of the prisoners on an improved scale.

The native town remains under the sole supervision of the local District Officer.

Climate.

The climate is chiefly remarkable for its very dry character. Sickness is more prevalent in the winter months, but this is chiefly because during this period of the year caravans from the interior come down to the coast, which is to a great extent abandoned during the extreme heat of the summer by the greater part of the native population.

Report on Telegraphs.

Sir, Telegraphs, Berbera, 7th July, 1911.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the Telegraphs for the year ending 31st March, 1911:—

Wireless Telegraphy.—It was decided at the beginning of 1910 to establish wireless stations at Berbera and Aden for the purpose of placing Somaliland in telegraphic communication with the outside world.

The contract to supply and erect the two stations was carried out by the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company, who were required to hand over the stations complete in the short contract time of three months. The Aden Station was finished on the 23rd April, 1910, and the Berbera Station was completed on the 13th May, 1910. The erection of the Berbera Station was expedited considerably by the constructing engineer being allowed to employ a number of men of the Baluchi Regiment then stationed in Berbera.

The first messages transmitted were sent on the 13th May, 1910. The stations are staffed by telegraphists and engine drivers seconded from the Indian Telegraph Department; the staff is supervised by a European superintendent. The service was at first restricted to Government and privilege messages, but later it was decided to open both stations to the public.

The service was opened to the public on the 15th December, 1910, the rate per word being fixed at sixpence. From the first month's receipts it was shown that, if that volume of traffic was maintained, it would mean a revenue of £800 a year.

It was anticipated that the merchants at Aden and Berbera would find the service very convenient, but up to the present few messages from this source have been exchanged.

The chief source of revenue is from messages exchanged with ships, and these are mostly for Aden Station to be transmitted over the cable system. The Aden Station is in direct communication with the Eastern Telegraph Company's Station, a land line having been installed by the Protectorate.

The number of ships fitted with wireless is continually increasing, and the volume of traffic exchanged with coast stations may be expected to increase correspondingly.

The installations are working very satisfactorily, the signals exchanged between the stations are very good, and the service is certainly a success.

Land Line Telegraphs.—With the evacuation of the interior all telegraph lines were closed down with the exception of the field telegraph to Bulhar, which is still maintained.

The majority of messages exchanged over this line are on Government service, but the line is open to the public for paid telegrams, only a small number of which are dealt with. This line has been frequently cut by natives, who steal lengths of wire. Owing to these raids the line has had to be patrolled by the police from time to time.

Since Berbera became linked up with the international telegraph system, the question of notifying Bulhar as an international telegraph office has been suggested, but this matter is still under consideration.

I have, &c.,

S. T. Dockray,
Superintendent, Telegraphs.

His Majesty's Acting Commissioner,
Somaliland.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
660	Barbados	1909–1910
661	Swaziland	"
662	Jamaica	"
663	Straits Settlements	1909
664	Trinidad and Tobago	1909–1910
665	Southern Nigeria	1909
666	Mauritius	"
667	British Honduras	"
668	St. Vincent	1909–1910
669	East Africa Protectorate	"
670	Uganda	"
671	British Guiana	"
672	St. Lucia	1909
673	Leeward Islands	1909–1910
674	Northern Nigeria	1909
675	St. Helena	1910
676	Gibraltar	"
677	Basutoland	1909–1910
678	Weihaiwei	1910
679	Gambia	"
680	Ashanti	"
681	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
682	Falkland Islands	"
683	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
684	Bahamas	1910–1911
685	Colonial Survey Committee	"
686	Malta	"
687	Imperial Institute	1910
688	Gold Coast	"
689	Fiji	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
70	Colonies	List of Laws relating to Patents, Trade Marks, &c.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.

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1911.

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No. 736.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1911-12.

(For Report for 1910-11, *see* No. 690.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

October, 1912.

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No. 736.

SOMALILAND.

(For Report for 1910-11, *see* No. 690.)

THE ACTING COMMISSIONER to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Commissioner's Office, Berbera,
22nd August, 1912.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Somaliland Protectorate for the year ended on the 31st March, 1912.

I have, &c.,

G. F. ARCHER.

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

(26309—2.) Wt. 29478—571. 1125 & 90. 10/12. D & S. A 2

REPORT ON THE SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1911-1912.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue collected during the year under review amounted to £32,572, exceeding by £1,710 the revenue for the previous year, and showing a surplus over the estimate of £6,100.

The figures for the last five years are appended for comparison:—

	£
1906-1907	38,388
1907-1908	26,607
1908-1909	30,326
1909-1910	31,384
1910-1911	30,862
1911-1912	32,572

Customs receipts are responsible for some four-fifths of the Protectorate Revenue.

Compared with the returns for 1910-1911, the figures for 1911-1912 show increases under the following heads of revenue:—Customs, £943; Port and Harbour Dues, £15; Licences and Internal Revenue, £501; Fees of Court or Office, £65; Telegraphs, £721.

Decreases occurred under the following heads:—Post Office and Telegraphs, £25; Miscellaneous Receipts, £497; Unclaimed Deposits, £15.

Under Customs, imports of rice, American grey sheeting, ready-made cotton clothing, European white long-cloth, jowari, and tea increased, but imports of sugar, sundry cotton piece goods, dates, and hardware decreased. The exports of sheep and goat skins, hides, guano, pearls, mother-of-pearl, gum, sheep, and goats all show an increase, but exports of ghee (clarified butter), coffee (in transit from Abyssinia), fibre, ostrich feathers, and cattle show a decrease. The increase in Harbour Dues is attributable to the increase in the import of rice. The opening to the public of the wireless service and the traffic between ships and Aden-Berbera stations caused the increase noted under "Telegraphs." The decrease under Miscellaneous Receipts may be attributed to the fact that in the year under review the sale of surplus Government stores was very much less than in the previous year.

The total expenditure for the year 1911-1912 was £74,845, being £24,378 less than the amount expended in 1910-1911.

With three exceptions, the increases in expenditure under various heads were comparatively small and do not require comment. An increase under Miscellaneous Services of £26,375 is attributable to the payment of compensation to the Somaliland

Fibre and Development Company. Under Special Military an increase of £5,016 was incurred on account of the disbandment of the old and recruitment of the new Indian contingent, while an increase of £1,380 under Public Works Extraordinary may be attributed to the building of a new Customs House, market, and telegraph office. In the previous year no new public works were undertaken.

The principal decreases were effected under the following heads of expenditure:—

Pensions, £1,294. This is attributable to the payment in 1910-1911 of gratuities to retrenched officials not recurring in 1911-1912.

Coastal Administration, £684, which is due to savings effected by the amalgamation of the police force.

Military, £3,931, to be attributed to payments in 1910-1911 for salaries and passages of military officers not recurring in 1911-1912.

Military Abnormal, £31,490, which is accounted for by the fact that most of the claims for abnormal military expenditure were met in 1910-1911, and there were only a few outstanding claims paid in 1911-1912.

Telegraphs, £3,834, which is really the capital non-recurring charge of the wireless installation, while the sum expended, £1,810, represents the annual recurring expenditure.

The following table shows the total expenditure for the last five years:—

——	1907–08.	1908–09.	1909–10.	1910–11.	1911–12.
	£	£	£	£	£
Expenditure ...	105,201	134,534	192,838	99,223	74,845

Taxation.—There have been no important changes in taxation during the year.

The total assets on 1st April, 1912, were £22,662, as against £63,847 on 1st April, 1911. The liabilities amounted to £4,618, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of £18,044. Against this a sum of £6,377 has been appropriated in the estimate for 1912-1913 to assist in the reduction of the grant-in-aid for this year.

Currency.—The currency of the Somaliland Protectorate is based upon the Indian rupee. A few Government of India notes are in circulation, and the British sovereign is also accepted at the coast at the rate of Rs.15 to the sovereign.

There are no banks doing business in the Protectorate, but a private firm—Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers—accept

deposits from private individuals, cashing cheques drawn against them.

Municipal.

Under the Somaliland Townships Ordinance, 1911, the town of Berbera has been declared a township, and a municipal council has been appointed. The municipal revenue is obtained from the following sources:—

1. Sweeping and hut tax.
2. Nuisance fines.

The tax is paid by everyone who has a house or hut in the town of Berbera, and the fines are collected from people committing a nuisance within a limited area. The tax is only levied at Berbera, but fines are inflicted both at Zeyla and Bulhar.

Revenue during 1911-1912 amounted to Rs. 5,058, showing a decrease of Rs.92 on last year. There was a decrease of Rs.199 in expenditure.

A comparative statement of revenue and expenditure for the five years is shown below:—

——	1907–08.	1908–09.	1909–10.	1910–11.	1911–12.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue	8,205	6,078	4,656	5,150	5,058
Expenditure ...	5,450	6,430	7,773	6,983	6,784

There is no municipality at Zeyla.

The town is kept clean by nine Government sweepers; these, with one lamplighter, cost in all Rs.2,174 during the year under review.

The receipts of the local conservancy fund for the year under report amounted to Rs.244, and the expenditure to Rs.305.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

The annual value of the trade (excluding specie) of the British Somaliland Protectorate for the last five years is as shown below:—

Years.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1907–08	3,349,200	3,007,557	6,356,757
1908–09	4,049,147	3,240,964	7,290,111
1909–10	4,254,731	3,093,785	7,348,516
1910–11	3,686,925	3,466,504	7,153,429
1911–12	3,844,953	3,420,537	7,265,490

IMPORTS.

Imports for the year under review exceeded the figures for 1910-1911 by Rs.158,028. In addition, specie amounting to Rs.152,712 was imported during the year, making the total value of imports Rs.3,997,665.

The value of imports and specie imported into each of the Protectorate ports during the year was:—

	Rs.	Rs.
Imports.		
Berbera	1,746,324	
Bulhar	965,405	
Zeyla	1,133,224	
		3,844,953
Specie.		
Berbera	24,000	
Bulhar	2,000	
Zeyla	126,712	
		152,712
Total		3,997,665

The principal decreases have occurred under the following items:—

	Rs.
Arms:—	
Rifles	6,541
Apparel:—	
Woollen	1,004
Cotton Piece Goods:—	
Country grey sheeting	5,026
Other cotton piece goods...	49,701
Drugs and medicines	5,220
Fruits:—	
Dates	23,217
Hardware	19,414
Leather Manufactures:—	
Boots and shoes	6,627
Machinery and parts thereof	1,935
Malt liquors	2,427
Metals:—	
Brass and copperware	1,456
Iron and steelware	8,823
Miscellaneous	4,666
Preserved provisions	25,732
Salt	1,624
Spirits	3,101
Sugar	57,566

Necessaries constituted the major part of the increase as follows:—

	Rs.
Apparel:—	
Cotton	79,076
Cotton Piece Goods:—	
American grey sheeting	101,345
European white long-cloth	26,668
Grains:—	
Flour	3,142
Jowaree	36,490
Rice	111,752
Other kinds grain...	9,073
Tea	5,187
Tobacco	1,366

The departure of the European officers, Indian troops and followers, fewer building operations, and the inability of the people to purchase luxuries to the same extent as formerly, caused a relative reduction in the supply of all articles dependent on these sources for their importation.

Disregarding country grey sheeting, an insignificant and gradually declining importation, the increase of American grey sheeting and European white long-cloth by 655,759 and 153,003 yards, respectively, indicates the increasing use of the substantial and durable textile by the natives, whose avocations are now more associated with the interior. The Manchester fabric is usually worn as an ornamental cloth in the towns, where a depleted stock was replaced by this year's consignments. That "Other Cotton Piece Goods" declined by Rs.49,701 in value is consonant with the conditions which make the tribesmen dependent on their own means and exertions for luxuries or subsistence. Consequently, these clothes have been set aside for those of mere utility. On the other hand, the cheapness and convenience of ready-made apparel, especially ganjifrocks, or jerseys, and suderias, or waistcoats, of native manufacture, which appeal to the popular taste and are within the means of the poorest, resulted in larger importations, representing a corresponding value of Rs.79,076, of which Zeyla took Rs.52,962 worth, Bulhar Rs.24,702, and Berbera only Rs.1,412.

Availing themselves of opportunities to obtain consignments direct from India, the local merchants stored a quantity in excess of the local demand, and the reserve stock of rice, flour, jowaree, miscellaneous cereals, and tea, therefore, exceeded last year's imports by 16,338 cwts., 427 cwts., 7,651 cwts., 1,310 cwts., and 10,762 lbs. respectively.

The benefit of an exceptionally heavy date crop was neutralised by a scarcity of freight at Busserah, and some of the dealers, having heard reports of the slackness of trade at Berbera, preferred to utilise the available craft for carrying the fruit to more profitable markets—a preference which reduced the available quantity from 49,472 to 44,378 cwts.

In sympathy with the Trieste market, the main source of supply, the prevailing high price of sugar affected the sales, which were further reduced by the closure of a number of "coffee shops," especially those along the caravan routes.

EXPORTS.

The total value of exports for the year 1911-1912 amounted to Rs.3,600,539, as detailed below:—

	Rs.
Somaliland produce	3,321,812
Imported and re-exported	98,725
Specie	180,002
Total ...	3,600,539

The value of exports and specie exported from each of the Protectorate ports during the year was:—

	Rs.	Rs.
Berbera	1,350,659	
Bulhar	942,345	
Zeyla	1,127,533	
		3,420,537
SPECIE.		
Berbera	69,149	
Bulhar	33,330	
Zeyla	77,523	
		180,002
Total		3,600,539

The apparent diminution, aggregating Rs.109,457, includes Rs.63,490 worth of specie, Rs.45,967 under re-exports, the major portion of the latter representing the statistical assessment, amounting to Rs.43,690, on camels, horses, and mules exported last year by the Administration to Egypt and East Africa. Eliminating these fluctuating and adventitious items, it is to be observed that the actual value of local products or *bonâ fide* trade exceeds that recorded in 1910-1911 by Rs.141,688.

The most noticeable decreases, to the extent tabulated, occur under the following classifications:—

	Rs.
Coffee (raw)	41,360
Fibre (Sansevieria Ehrenbergii) ...	13,474
Ghee (clarified butter)	65,724
Miscellaneous	79,515
Oxen and bulls	6,650

These, however, are counterbalanced by the following substantial increases:—

	Rs.
Gums (Arabic, myrrh, and unenumerated)	10,231
Hides	20,637
Manure	20,757
Pearls	10,096
Sheep and goats	8,695
Shells (mother-of-pearl)	7,291
Skins	131,631

The temporary prohibition, under the Cattle Disease Act, of the importation of oxen into Aden affected shipments, while a drought reduced the supply of ghee, or clarified butter, which, during a period of the year, barely sufficed for local consumption.

That coffee to the extent of only Rs.29,823, compared with Rs.71,169 in 1910-11, was exported from Zeyla indicates the gradual and inevitable supersession of camel transport by the Jibouti railway. The opportunity of cheap transport occasionally induces the merchants to utilise the ancient caravan routes.

Last year the Somalis acquired the stock of wholly or partially manufactured fibre lying in or about the Fibre Company's vacated premises in the interior. This year, however, they were wholly dependent on the manual labour of their women for the supply of a material wrought under the stress of poverty, which, latterly, in the form of "Shigar" or shredded and split stalks, has become an expanding industry and supplementary article of export.

Military stores reshipped from the country comprise the major part of the articles classified under "Miscellaneous."

Of the Rs.8,695 enhanced value of sheep and goats, equivalent to 1,739 additional animals, 1,160 were shipped from Zeyla and the remainder from Bulhar; the former port experienced a comparatively prosperous year, reflected in its trade statistics, which show an increase of Rs.17,826, whereas the unsettled condition in the hinterland of Berbera diverted caravans to Bulhar, which temporarily became the entrepot. In this capacity Bulhar exported an additional Rs.10,231 worth of gums and resins, and thereby emphasised the fact that the people are returning to their former occupations and industries.

Coincident with the stoppage of all credit, owing to the evacuation of the interior, there was an unprecedented demand for skins and hides, and exorbitant prices were paid by the dealers for what the nomads were constrained to provide in order to obtain necessaries.

The development of the pearl fisheries, the reduction from 7 per cent. to 1 per cent. at Berbera and Bulhar in the export duty, making a uniform rate for all ports, together with the introduction of rules which mutually benefited the divers and their employees, removed the former incentives to evade the Customs duty and to appropriate the more valuable gems. That the result has been effective is evidenced by the difference at Berbera between the number brought in 1910-1911 and 1911-1912, the comparative value being Rs.800 and Rs.28,297 respectively.

For the fertilization of an extended acreage of tobacco culture in the territory of the Sultan of Mukalla, there was a corresponding demand for guano from Meit Island, and the competitive Arab shippers loaded as much as the Somalis could gather within the period during which the weather enabled them to carry on their operations.

Shipping.

The shipping returns for the British Somaliland Protectorate show an increase of 163 vessels and 5,211 tonnage.

—	1910-1911.		1911-1912.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	1,626	68,190	1,706	71,157
Cleared...	1,619	68,450	1,702	70,694

The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered and cleared during the year 1911-1912 were as under:—

—	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Berbera—						
Entered	123	35,670	617	8,996	740	44,666
Cleared	123	35,670	611	8,454	734	44,124
Total	246	71,340	1,228	17,450	1,474	88,790
Bulhar—						
Entered	59	10,237	291	3,953	350	14,190
Cleared	59	10,237	291	3,953	350	14,190
Total	118	20,474	582	7,906	700	28,380
Zeyla—						
Entered	55	7,117	561	5,184	616	12,301
Cleared	55	7,117	563	5,263	618	12,380
Total	110	14,234	1,124	10,447	1,234	24,681
Grand Total	474	106,048	2,934	35,803	3,408	141,851

The charter of several transports for the embarkation and disembarkation of troops and the entry of seven additional rice steamers and an extra date steamer augmented the general tonnage by 5,211 tons. Although 147 more sailing ships called at the Protectorate ports, yet the collective tonnage shows a disparity of 5,669, attributed to the effect of local and extraneous circumstances on the country-craft traffic. The modification of the regulations compelling all dhows bound to the north-eastern ports to call first at Berbera liberated many large vessels from the obligation; others, mainly craft of small burden and mostly new to the industry, engaged in the pearl, bêche-de-mer, and coquillage shell fisheries in the north-east waters, where they were joined by the professional fishers from Zeyla who had heard exaggerated reports of their success; the embargo proclaimed by the Italians against the principal Turkish ports in the Red Sea littoral necessitated the employment of country craft for the transport of foodstuffs from Aden to the exempted ports and

those adjacent to Hodeidah, and, as the freight offered was as high as 5 dollars or Rs.6 14*a*. per bag of grain, a number of local dhows participated in the profits, and, under the pretext of engaging in the legitimate carrying-trade, ran the blockade.

The nationality of vessels entered and cleared during 1911-1912 in the British Somaliland Protectorate is thus made up:—

—	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	1,243	56,038	1,233	55,679
Italian...	26	696	27	678
French...	5	119	5	119
Austrian	3	9,231	3	9,231
Turkish	41	1,513	43	1,455
Arab	388	3,596	391	3,532
Total	1,706	71,157	1,702	70,694

The total harbour dues collected at the port of Berbera during the year 1911-1912 are shown under the headings:—

	Amount. Rs.
Port dues or tonnage dues	1,853
Licences and monthly fees for passenger boats	182
Licences and monthly fees for cargo boats (Berbera and Bulhar)	653
Total	2,688
Total for 1910-1911	2,503
Net increase	185

The value of the inland trade registered at Berbera and Bulhar for the year 1911-1912 was:—

	Value. Rs.
Berbera	1,236,237
Bulhar	1,439,665
Total	2,675,902

Statement of Customs collection in the Protectorate for the year 1911-1912, compared with the year 1910-1911:—

——	Import.	Export.	Zariba.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Refund.	Balance.
1910–11.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Berbera and Bulhar.	183,106	149,694	30,026	5,909*	368,735	3,228	—
Zeyla ...	35,398	17,569	—	512†	53,479		
Total...	218,504	167,263	30,026	6,421	422,214	3,228	418,986
1911–12.							
Berbera and	119,313	88,716	13,152	5,319‡	226,500	3	226,497
Bulhar.	67,582	63,024	16,107	519§	147,232	—	147,232
Zeyla ...	38,200	19,912	—	702‖	58,814	11	58,803
Total...	225,095	171,652	29,239	6,540	432,546	14	432,532
Increase...	6,591	4,389	—	119	11,099	—	13,546
Decrease	—	—	767	—	—	3,214	—

* Port dues Rs.2,503, registration of vessels (including Zeyla amount) Rs.177, and other receipts Rs.3,229.
† Other receipts Rs.512.
‡ Port dues Rs.2,580, registration of vessels Rs.99, and other receipts Rs.2,640.
§ Port dues Rs.108, and other receipts Rs.411.
‖ Registration of vessels Rs.136, and other receipts Rs.566.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Two Ordinances were enacted during the year 1911-1912.

IV.—EDUCATION.

There are three Government schools in the Protectorate, at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla.

The pupils are children of the local Indian and Arab traders, and a few Somalis. Only Arabic is taught.

The average attendance at the various schools is as follows:—

Berbera, 90.
Bulhar, 36.
Zeyla, 27.

The cost of upkeep during the year was Rs.1,605.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(a) *Hospitals.*—A general hospital is situated at each of the three principal coast towns, namely, at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla. A disinfecting station, furnished with a "Clayton" disinfector, exists at Berbera.

At Berbera there is accommodation for 42 beds; at Bulhar for four beds, and at Zeyla for six beds.

Camp hospitals, constructed of matting huts erected on wooden frameworks, have been in use at each of the towns for meeting an epidemic of small-pox. These huts have been added to as requirements have demanded. They answer their purpose very well, and withstand the wind far better than the tents used formerly.

The number of admissions to the hospitals was 190. The number of deaths in hospital was six.

The above figures are exclusive of 2,846 cases with 1,256 deaths from small-pox, treated at the small-pox camps.

(b) *Dispensaries.*—There is a dispensary attached to each of the hospitals. The attendance during the year totalled 30,880.

(c) *Asylums.*—No asylum exists. A ward in the jail under medical supervision is provided for criminal prisoners who are found to be insane.

(d) *Schools.*—(Shown under the heading " Education.")

(e) *Laboratories.*—A small room is available at the hospital at Berbera for the purpose of blood examinations, urine testing, &c. No culture equipment exists, but microscope sections can be cut and mounted, and simple chemical analysis conducted.

VI.—POLICE AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The following table shows the strength and distribution of police, mounted and foot, on March 31st, 1912:—

Foot Police.

Station.	Native. Officers.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.
Berbera and Bulhar	2	93
Zeyla	1	58

Mounted Police.

Station.	Native Officer.	Colour Sergeant.	Non-commissioned officers and men.
Berbera and Bulhar	—	1	25
Zeyla	1	—	10

There were 846 summary convictions in the subordinate court, and two convictions in the higher court during 1911-1912.

A comparative statement of cases reported to the Berbera and Bulhar courts during the year is appended:—

Years.	Cases reported.	Convictions or Committals.
1907-1908	1,489	1,201
1908-1909	1,165	939
1909-1910	879	686
1910-1911	732	699
1911-1912	411	848

Of these 411 cases, 217 appear under the head of "Other Offences," which include breaches of local rules and other minor offences, leaving 194 cases under the heading "crime."

A comparative statement of serious crimes is appended:—

Crime.	Convictions, 1910-1911.	Convictions, 1911-1912.
Homicide	0	1
Robbery and thefts	214	133
Grievous hurt	2	4
Sedition	0	1
Breaches of Firearms Regulations	42	4
Criminal breach of trust ...	0	1
Malicious injury to property...	0	1
Rape	0	1

The convictions in the Protectorate court and district courts for the last five years are as follows:—

Years.	Protectorate Court.	District Courts.
1907-1908	3	1,198
1908-1909	2	939
1909-1910	1	685
1910-1911	2	697
1911-1912	2	846

The Protectorate court returns show cases tried before His Majesty's Commissioner, and the district courts figures represent cases tried in the district and subordinate courts of Berbera and Bulhar.

The criminal statistics of Zeyla show 124 cases tried by the magistrate during the year under review. There has, therefore, been a decrease of seven cases as compared with the preceding year.

Very few of the offences committed are of a serious character, and there is practically no criminal population at Zeyla.

During the year 375 prisoners were committed to prison by the Berbera and Bulhar courts. Besides these there were 229 political prisoners, the majority of whom are merely detained pending restitution of stock looted by them or their relations.

The following table shows the number of escapes in Berbera and Bulhar during the past three years:—

Years.	Escapes.	Recaptures.
1909-1910	8	3
1910-1911	8	1
1911-1912	10	2

The daily average of convicted prisoners in Berbera and Bulhar gaols was 179, as against 155 in 1910-1911.

Five deaths took place amongst the prisoners during the year.

The cost of maintenance of prisoners amounted to Rs.18,142. It has not been possible to render the labour of the prisoners remunerative.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Return of the Statistics of population for the year.

—		Europeans and Whites.	Somalis.	Indians.	Arabs.	Mixed.	—
Number of Inhabitants	1910	20	300,000	200	300	100	Approximate
Births	1911	1		Unknown			
Deaths	"	2		Unknown			
Immigrants ...	"	3					
Emigrants	"	4					
Inhabitants	"	18	300,000	634	1,857	350	
Increase		—					
Decrease		2					

A census of the European and Asiatic population of the towns was taken during 1911, for the first time. No reliable information is forthcoming as to the increase or decrease of the native population in the interior.

The country, owing to its arid nature, is capable of supporting only a sparse nomadic population.

Sanitation.

A permanent water-supply brought from springs through pipes exists at Berbera. The other towns depend on wells, which are liable to shifting, and to become brackish on occasion.

Quarantine.—There is a quarantine station, consisting of a building containing a "Clayton Disinfector" machine and a room for the disinfection to take place in. The machine is worked by a small oil engine.

Climate.

The climate is chiefly remarkable for its very dry character. In the interior it is healthy, generally speaking, throughout the year, but the same can scarcely be said of the coast belt. Here during the "Kharif," *i.e.*, the months of June, July, August, and not infrequently half September, the atmospheric conditions are very trying for Europeans, and the effect on the nervous

system is most pronounced. Terrific gales of dust-laden wind are then prevalent, and the heat is intense, with the thermometer registering 105°-110° F. in the shade at midday and seldom falling below 100° at night. Most of the sickness, however, occurs during the months immediately preceding and immediately following the "Kharif."

During the months of November, December, January, and February, the climatic conditions on the coast greatly improve.

VIII.—TELEGRAPHS.

The "wireless" service between Berbera and Aden has been worked successfully throughout the year, there having been no break-downs of a sufficiently serious nature to interrupt the service.

The whole apparatus is practically unaffected by the climate and is standing the wear and tear remarkably well.

A new "wireless" station, built of stone, replacing the temporary wooden building, is in the course of erection, and should be completed early in the year 1912-13.

Some trouble is still caused by the atmospheric or static electric charge effects during the afternoons of certain periods of the year, but this has been considerably overcome by the increased experience of the operators.

Local traffic has not reached the anticipated dimensions, but traffic with ships is steadily increasing, owing to the greater number of ships passing up and down the Red Sea being fitted with radio-apparatus, and the increasing and more general use of "wireless" by travellers.

The majority of messages exchanged with ships are dealt with by the Aden station, and are mainly "received" for re-transmission to destinations all over the world.

In Aden the shipping agents use the service to some extent, and nearly all ships fitted with "wireless," bound for Aden, notify their time of arrival and requirements through the Aden station.

Communications with warships are numerous.

The total number of messages dealt with during the year was 3,287, which figure is likely to be greatly exceeded in 1912-13.

The hours of service have been extended on occasions when early communication with particular ships was found to be necessary. During the periods of time that H.M.S. "Medina" was in range with the Somaliland Government stations a constant watch was maintained night and day, and some very good distances accomplished.

As the traffic dealt with by the stations became greater it was found expedient to increase the operating staff, in order to maintain a constant watch from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
707	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1910
708	Uganda	1910–1911
709	Straits Settlements...	1910
710	Basutoland	1910–1911
711	Leeward Islands	,,
712	St. Vincent	,,
713	St. Lucia	1910
714	St. Helena	1911
715	Weihaiwei	,,
716	Ceylon	1910–1911
717	Gibraltar	1911
718	Gambia	,,
719	Ashanti	,,
720	Falkland Islands	,,
721	Seychelles	,,
722	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
723	Hong Kong...	,,
724	Sierra Leone	,,
725	Gold Coast	,,
726	Turks and Caicos Islands...	,,
727	Fiji	,,
728	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1911–1912
729	Basutoland	,,
730	Colonial Survey Committee	,,
731	Malta	,,
732	Nyasaland	,,
733	British Honduras	1911
734	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1910
735	Southern Nigeria	1911

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies...	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 761.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1912-13.

(For Report for 1911-12, *see* No. 736.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

August, 1913.

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No. 761.

SOMALILAND.

(For Report for 1911–12, *see* No. 736.)

THE ACTING COMMISSIONER to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Commissioner's Office, Berbera,
18th July, 1913.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Somaliland Protectorate for the year ended on the 31st March, 1913.

I have, &c.,

G. F. ARCHER.

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

(31222—2.) Wt. 35104—688. 1125 & 90. 8/13 D & S

REPORT ON THE SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1912-1913.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue collected during the year under review amounted to £29,913, being £2,656 less than the revenue for the previous year, but showing a surplus of £178 over the estimate.

The figures for the last five years are appended for comparison:—

	£
1908-1909	30,326
1909-1910	31,384
1910-1911	30,862
1911-1912	32,572
1912-1913	29,913

Customs receipts are responsible for some four-fifths of the Protectorate revenue.

Compared with the returns for 1911-1912 the figures for 1912-1913 show increases under the following heads of revenue:—

Fees of Court or Office £24; Post Office, £325; Unclaimed Deposits, £724.

Decreases occurred under the following heads:—

Customs, £3,078; Port and Harbour Dues, £32; Licences and Internal Revenue, £462; Telegraphs, £98; Miscellaneous Receipts, £61.

Under Customs, imports of cotton piece goods, sugar, flour, grain (gram), preserved provisions, rum, tobacco, and enamelled ware increased; but imports of rice, jowari, dates, and ready-made cotton apparel decreased. The exports of sheep, goats, and bullocks, ghi (clarified butter), gums, and fibres show increases; but decreases occurred in the exports of skins and hides, ostrich feathers, manure (guano), and pearls. An explanation of the nature and extent of these differences is given later under Head II., Trade and Shipping.

The decrease in harbour dues is attributable to the decrease in the import of rice. The revenue collected under Licences and Internal Revenue for 1911-1912 included the balance of a fine transferred from Deposits where formerly it had been held, which accounts for the decrease under this head for the present year. Under Telegraphs also the decrease is due to the revenue for 1911-1912 having been swelled by a number of collections made in respect of the previous year.

For the increase under Post Office a larger sale of stamps owing to new issues is chiefly responsible. Under Unclaimed Deposits several deposits of more than five years' standing were written off to revenue during the year under review.

The total expenditure for the year 1912-1913 was £60,872, being £13,974 less than the amount expended in 1911-1912.

With regard to the increases in expenditure two items only require special comment. Camel Constabulary, £8,401, was the cost incurred in connection with the new camel constabulary. Of this £4,400 represents charges of a non-recurrent nature. The increase under Special Military—Abnormal—£11,904, represents the cost of a detachment of a Native Infantry Regiment lent by the Government of India as a temporary addition to the garrison of Berbera. These troops were, however, dispensed with in April, 1913.

The principal decreases were effected under the following heads of expenditure:—

Pensions, £619. This is attributable chiefly to the inclusion of two commuted pensions in the figures of the previous year.

Coastal Administration, £699, is due to the substitution of ponies by camels for the Berbera Mounted Police, and a consequent reduction in the cost of rations.

Medical (Special Expenditure), £923. The epidemic of small-pox having been stamped out during the early part of the year, but little expenditure was incurred under this head.

Miscellaneous, £26,710. The expenditure for 1911-1912 included the payment of £26,603, which represents compensation paid to the Somaliland Fibre and Development Company and the various expenses incurred in this connection.

Military (Special Expenditure), £4,716. The time-expired Indian contingent was disbanded and a new one recruited during the year 1911-1912, and there was thus no expenditure under this head in the year under review.

The following table shows the total expenditure for the last five years:—

——	1908–09.	1909–10.	1910–11.	1911–12.	1912–13.
Expenditure ...	£ 134,534	£ 192,838	£ 99,223	£ 74,845	£ 60,872

The total assets on 1st April, 1913, were £20,757, as against £22,662 on 1st April, 1912. The liabilities amounted to £7,672, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of £13,085. Against this a sum of £7,797 will be required during the year 1913-1914 to meet services deferred from 1912-1913. The balance of £5,288 will be appropriated in the estimates for 1914-1915 to assist in the reduction of the Grant-in-Aid for that year.

Currency.—The currency of Somaliland Protectorate is based on the Indian rupee. A few Government of India notes are in circulation, and the British sovereign is also accepted at the coast at the rate of Rs. 15 to the sovereign.

There are no banks doing business in the Protectorate, but a private firm—Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers—accepts deposits from private individuals, cashing cheques drawn against them.

Municipal.

Under the Somaliland Townships Ordinance, 1911, the town of Berbera has been declared a township, and a Municipal Council has been appointed. The municipal revenue is obtained from nuisance fines and sweeping and hut tax, which is paid by everyone who has a house or hut in the town of Berbera.

Revenue during 1912-1913 amounted to Rs. 7,378, showing an increase of Rs. 2,320 on last year. There was a decrease of Rs. 33 in expenditure.

A comparative statement of revenue and expenditure for the five years is shown below:—

—	1908–09.	1909–10.	1910–11.	1911–12.	1912–13.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue	6 078	4,656	5,150	5,058	7,378
Expenditure ...	6,430	7,773	6,983	6,784	6,751

There is no municipality at Zeyla.

The receipts of the Local Conservancy Fund for the year under report amounted to Rs. 200, and the expenditure to Rs. 95.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

The annual value of the trade (excluding specie) of the British Somaliland Protectorate for the last five years is as shown below:—

Years.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1908–09	4,049,147	3,240,964	7,290,111
1909–10	4,254,731	3,093,785	7,348,516
1910–11	3,686,925	3,466,504	7,153,429
1911–12	3,844,953	3,420,537	7,265,490
1912–13	3,650,459	3,201,046	6,851,505

Imports.

The value of imports for the year 1912-1913, including specie (Rs. 92,477), was Rs. 3,742,936.

The value of imports and specie imported into each of the Protectorate ports during the year was:—

Imports.	Rs.	Rs.
Berbera	1,470,495	
Bulhar	917,731	
Zeyla	1,262,233	
		3,650,459

Specie.

	Rs.	Rs.
Berbera	23,000	
Bulhar	14,000	
Zeyla	55,477	
		92,477
Total		3,742,936

The principal decreases occurred under the following items:—

	Rs.
Grain—	
Rice	315,386
Jowari	71,964
Apparel	52,468
Dates	23,761

A scarcity of cereals in India adversely influenced the consignments of rice and jowari, and the local merchants hesitated to supplement unsold stock until satisfied of the improvement in the political situation in the interior.

Under "Apparel," an increased demand for the more durable textiles has resulted in a proportional diminution in the import of fabrics of a less substantial nature.

To the disadvantage of a scanty date crop at Bussarah was added the difficulty of obtaining freight owing to many country craft being chartered at exorbitant rates to engage in the unusually successful pearl fisheries around Bahrein, Howeit, Katar, and Aman.

Government ammunition, riding camels, and accoutrements for the constabulary, the military contractor's stores, and sugar to replenish last year's exhausted stock, constituted the major portion of the increase as shown below:—

	Rs.
Animals, living—	
Camels	36,427
Cotton piece goods—	
Other cotton piece goods	55,433
Grain—	
Flour	14,860
Leather manufactures—	
Saddlery	17,130
Arms and ammunition	3,598
Sugar	61,465

EXPORTS.

In 1912-1913, the value of exports amounted to Rs. 3,441,716, as detailed below:—

	Rs.
Somaliland produce	3,131,739
Imported and re-exported	69,307
Specie	240,670
Total	3,441,716

The value of exports and specie exported from each of the Protectorate ports during the year was:—

Exports.

	Rs.	Rs.
Berbera	942,604	
Bulhar	868,994	
Zeyla	1,389,448	
		3,201,046

Specie.

Berbera	125,606	
Bulhar	28,050	
Zeyla	87,014	
		240,670
Total		3,441,716

A diminished caravan and country craft traffic, combined with a dullness in the European leather market and a less profitable pearl fishing season, has resulted in a falling off in the case of the following items:—

	Rs.
Feathers (ostrich)	14,881
Manure	28,141
Pearls	17,132
Sheep and goat skins	360,404

A favourable breeding season, the high prices offered for hides, and the necessity of labouring as a means of subsistence are responsible for an excess of live stock, ghee, hides, fibre, and gums over last year's shipments to the extent shown below:—

	Rs.
Animals, living:—	
Sheep and goats	49,300
Ghee (clarified butter)	84,429
Hides	57,259
Fibre	13,862
Gums	34,173

Shipping.

The shipping returns for the British Somaliland Protectorate show a decrease of 410 vessels and 23,837 tonnage.

	1911–12.		1912–13.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	1,706	71,157	1,493	58,716
Cleared	1,702	70,694	1,505	59,298

The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered and cleared during the year 1912-1913 were as under:—

	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Berbera—						
Entered	118	25,955	398	6,056	516	32,011
Cleared	118	25,955	407	6,523	525	32,478
Total	236	51,910	805	12,579	1,041	64,489
Bulhar—						
Entered	102	11,978	288	3,674	390	15,652
Cleared	102	11,978	282	3,656	384	15,634
Total	204	23,956	570	7,330	774	31,286
Zeyla—						
Entered	55	6,404	532	4,649	587	11,053
Cleared	55	6,404	541	4,782	596	11,186
Total	110	12,808	1,073	9,431	1,183	22,239
Grand Total	550	88,674	2,448	29,340	2,998	118,014

More frequent calls of the local coastal steamers indicate an increase of 76 vessels, whereas the actual number of rice steamers which entered the Protectorate ports was only six, compared with ten last year, and the tonnage 17,374 less. Most of the country craft were engaged in carrying freight from Aden to the Arabian ports, and consequently their number and tonnage decreased by 486 and 6,463, respectively.

The nationality of vessels entered and cleared during 1912-1913 in the British Somaliland Protectorate is thus made up:—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	1,228	54,591	1,238	54,856
Italian	13	193	13	196
French	2	117	2	117
Turkish	11	272	11	272
Arab	239	3,543	241	3,857
Total	1,493	58,716	1,505	59,298

The total harbour dues collected at the port of Berbera during the year 1912-1913 are shown under the headings:—

	Amount. Rs.
Port dues or tonnage dues	1,202
Licences and monthly fees for passenger boats	195
Licences and monthly fees for cargo boats (Berbera and Bulhar)	641
Total	2,038
Total for 1911-1912	2,688
Net decrease	650

The total amount derived from registration fees at Protectorate ports during the year 1912-1913 was:—

	Amount. Rs.
Berbera and Bulhar—	
Registration fees	164
Miscellaneous fees	45
Zeyla—	
Registration fees	124
Miscellaneous fees	47
Total	380

Fees charged under the Merchant Shipping Regulations during the year 1912-1913:—

	Amount. Rs.
Berbera, bills of health	863
Other miscellaneous fees	11
Total	874

Fees charged for water supply during the year 1912-1913:—

	Amount. Rs.
Berbera, water supply	138
Total	138

Fees collected on firearms stamping and registration for the year 1912-1913:—

	Amount. Rs.
Stamping fees:—	
Berbera	36
Bulhar	6
Zeyla	19
Total	61

Fees charged at the date market during the year 1912-1913:—

	Amount. Rs.
Berbera	365
Total	365

The value of the inland trade registered at Berbera and Bulhar for the year 1912-1913 was:—

	Value. Rs.
Berbera	1,191,505
Bulhar	1,197,859
Total	2,389,364

Statement of Customs collection in the British Somaliland Protectorate during the year 1912-1913, compared with the year 1911-1912:—

——	Import.	Export.	Zariba.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Refund.	Balance.
1911–12.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Berbera ...	119,313	88,716	13,152	5,319*	226,500	3	226,497
Bulhar ...	67,582	63,024	16,107	519†	147,232	—	147,232
Zeyla ...	38,200	19,912	—	702‡	58,814	11	58,803
Total...	225,095	171,652	29,259	6,540	432,546	14	432,532
1912–13.							
Berbera ...	96,405	63,303	13,554	5,303§	178,565	31	178,534
Bulhar ...	64,201	57,110	15,226	609‖	137,146	—	137,146
Zeyla ...	45,270	24,298	—	736¶	70,304	—	70,304
Total...	205,876	144,711	28,780	6,648	386,015	31	385,984
Increase...	—	—	—	108	—	17	—
Decrease	19,219	26,941	479	—	46,531	—	46,548

* Port dues Rs. 2,580, registration of vessels Rs. 99, and other receipts Rs. 2,640.
† Port dues Rs. 108, and other receipts Rs. 411.
‡ Registration of vessels Rs. 136, and other receipts Rs. 566.
§ Port dues Rs. 1,851, registration of vessels Rs. 208, and other receipts Rs. 3,244.
‖ Port dues Rs. 187, and other receipts Rs. 422.
¶ Registration of vessels Rs. 171, and other receipts Rs. 565.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Seven ordinances were enacted during the year 1912-1913.

IV.—EDUCATION.

There are three Government schools in the Protectorate, at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla.

The pupils are children of the local Indian and Arab traders, and a few Somalis. Only Arabic is taught.

The average attendance at the various schools is as follows:—

Berbera, 86.
Bulhar, 39.
Zeyla, 29

The cost of upkeep during the year was Rs. 1,527.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(a) *Hospitals.*—A general hospital is situated at each of the three principal coast towns, namely, at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla.

At Berbera there is accommodation for 42 beds, at Bulhar for four beds, and at Zeyla for six beds.

Camp hospitals, constructed of matting huts erected on wooden frameworks, have been in use at each of the towns for meeting an epidemic of small-pox. These huts have been added to as requirements have demanded. They answer their purpose very well, and withstand the wind far better than the tents used formerly.

The number of admissions to the hospitals was 592.

The number of deaths in hospital was 12.

The above figures are exclusive of 787 cases, with 236 deaths, from small-pox, treated at the small-pox camps.

(b) *Dispensaries.*—There is a dispensary attached to each of the hospitals. The attendance during the year totalled 47,658.

(c) *Laboratories.*—A small room is available at the hospital at Berbera for the purpose of blood examinations, urine testing, &c. No culture equipment exists, but microscope sections can be cut and mounted, and simple chemical analysis conducted.

VI.—POLICE AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The following table shows the strength and distribution of police, mounted and foot, on 31st March, 1913:—

Foot Police.

Station.	Native Officers.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.
Berbera and Bulhar	2	98
Zeyla	1	53

Mounted Police.

Station.	Native Officer.	Colour Sergeant.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.
Berbera and Bulhar	—	1	25
Zeyla	1	—	10

There were 927 summary convictions in the subordinate court and no conviction in the higher court during 1912-1913.

A comparative statement of cases reported to the Berbera and Bulhar courts during the year is appended:—

Years.	Cases reported.	Convictions or Committals.
1908-1909	1,165	939
1909-1910	879	686
1910-1911	732	699
1911-1912	411	848
1912-1913	578	927

Of these 578 cases, 361 appear under the head of "Other Offences," which include breaches of local rules and other minor offences, leaving 217 cases under the heading "Crime."

A comparative statement of serious crimes is appended:—

Crime.	Convictions, 1911-1912.	Convictions, 1912-1913.
Homicide	1	0
Robbery and theft	133	191
Grievous hurt	4	4
Sedition	1	0
Breaches of Firearms Regulations	4	10
Criminal breach of trust ...	1	5
Malicious injury to property...	1	0
Rape	1	1
Counterfeiting Government coins	0	1
Personating a public servant	0	2
Cheating	0	5
Riot	0	13

The convictions in the Protectorate court and district courts for the last five years are as follows:—

Years.	Protectorate Court.	District Courts.
1908-1909	2	939
1909-1910	1	685
1910-1911	2	697
1911-1912	2	846
1912-1913	0	927

The Protectorate court returns show cases tried before His Majesty's Commissioner, and the district court figures represent cases tried in the district and subordinate courts of Berbera and Bulhar.

During the year 685 prisoners were convicted by the Berbera and Bulhar courts. Besides these there were 85 political prisoners.

The following table shows the number of escapes in Berbera and Bulhar during the past three years:—

Years.	Escapes.	Recaptures.
1910-1911	8	1
1911-1912	10	2
1912-1913	8	4

The average of convicted prisoners in Berbera and Bulhar gaols was 142, as against 179 in 1911-1912.

Two deaths took place amongst the prisoners during the year.

The cost of maintenance of prisoners amounted to Rs. 16,357.

It has not been possible to render the labour of the prisoners remunerative.

Criminal statistics for the Zeyla district show a marked decrease on the preceding year, when 124 cases were tried. For the year under review, 65 cases came before the court, mostly for trivial offences.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

RETURN OF THE STATISTICS OF POPULATION FOR THE YEAR.

—		Europeans and Whites.	Somalis.	Indians.	Arabs.	Mixed.	—
Number of Inhabitants,	1911	26	305,500	741	1,857	789	Approximate
Births	1912	—	—	—	—	—	
Deaths	„	2	—	—	—	—	
Immigrants... ...	„	37	2,783	340	—	—	
Emigrants	„	16	2,583	—	—	—	
Inhabitants... ...	„	38	—	1,081	—	—	
Increase	...	12	200	340	—	—	

A census of the European and Asiatic population of the towns was taken during 1911 for the first time. No reliable information is forthcoming as to the increase or decrease of the native population in the interior.

The country, owing to its arid nature, is capable of supporting only a sparse nomadic population.

SANITATION.

The water supply of Berbera is brought through a 6-inch pipe from springs at Dubar, eight miles distant.

The Quarantine Station at Berbera is equipped with a "Clayton Disinfector."

CLIMATE.

The climate is chiefly remarkable for its very dry character. In the interior it is healthy, generally speaking, throughout the year, but the same can scarcely be said of the coast belt. Here, during the "Kharif," *i.e.*, the months of June, July, August, and not infrequently half September, the atmospheric conditions are very trying for Europeans, and the effect on the nervous system is most pronounced. Terrific gales of dust-laden wind are

then prevalent and the heat is intense, with the thermometer registering 105°-110° F. in the shade at midday and seldom falling below 100° at night. Most of the sickness, however, occurs during the months immediately preceding and immediately following the "Kharif."

During the months of November, December, January, and February, the climatic conditions on the coast greatly improve.

VIII.—TELEGRAPHS.

The "wireless" service between Berbera and Aden has been satisfactorily maintained throughout the year without breakdown.

The apparatus and machinery are standing the strain of the tropical temperature and atmosphere remarkably well; depreciation being at a very low rate. Electrical plant and instruments are, however, subjected to very considerable strain here, owing to the general high temperature and the quantity of fine sand which penetrates and collects almost everywhere during the Kharif season. It has, therefore, been decided to duplicate, at both Berbera and Aden, all apparatus in which the liability to serious breakdown exists.

In May the Berbera radio-apparatus and machinery were transferred to a new stone building erected as a radio-station. Great advantages have been derived from the transfer, which was effected without any prolonged interruption in the service.

Arrangements have been made to install rotary disc high-frequency dischargers capable of producing a musical signal of a note equivalent to 600 vibrations per second. This is expected to overcome very considerably the difficulty experienced when communicating during the times when atmospheric or static electric charge effects prevail.

At the Aden station a twentyfour hours service is maintained, while at Berbera, in addition to the day service, the station opens at 8 p.m., to establish communication with any ship within night range.

All ships fitted with wireless apparatus and passing to and from Europe and the East establish communication with both Aden and Berbera, and maintain "touch" for varying periods from twenty-four hours upwards. The number of communications established with each station during the year 1912-1913 was 897.

During the year under review there has been a slight falling off in the number of messages received, namely, 3,215, as against 3,287 of the previous year. The service is considerably used by warships, captains of liners, and shipping agents, besides the travelling public.

Arrangements have been made to install a small wireless station at Bulhar to replace the land line to Berbera, which has been a continual source of trouble throughout the year and has proved unsuitable.

The station when completed should have no difficulty in communicating with the wireless station at Berbera under the worst atmospheric conditions.

It is expected that a considerable saving in upkeep and a more efficient service will be the result of the change.

It is not intended that the Bulhar wireless station should communicate with ships, and therefore a short and a little used wave-length has been selected.

However, the station will, during working hours, be prepared to receive distress signals and to communicate with any ship requiring assistance.

IX.—GENERAL.

Statement showing the number of game animals of each species killed under licence in this Protectorate during the year 1912:—

Greater Kudu	1
Pelzeln's Gazelle	11
Dik-Dik	7
Wart Hog	2
Soemering's Gazelle	4
Waller's Gazelle	2
Greater Bustard	1
Beira	2

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
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731	Malta	"
732	Nyasaland	"
733	British Honduras	1911
734	Gilbert and Ellice Islands...	1910
735	Southern Nigeria	1911
736	Somaliland	1911–1912
737	Imperial Institute	1911
738	Northern Nigeria	"
739	Jamaica	1911–1912
740	Swaziland	"
741	Bahamas	"
742	Grenada	1911
743	Uganda	1911–1912
744	Mauritius	1911
745	Trinidad and Tobago	1911–1912
746	British Guiana	"
747	St. Vincent	"
748	Barbados	"
749	Leeward Islands	"
750	Straits Settlements	1911
751	East African Protectorate	1911–1912
752	St. Lucia	"
753	Gilbert and Ellice Islands Protectorate...	1911
754	Cayman Islands (Jamaica)	1911–1912
755	Gibraltar	1912
756	St. Helena	"
757	Weihaiwei	"
758	Ceylon	1911–1912
759	Sierra Leone	1912
760	Seychelles	"

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73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
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76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
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78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies...	Preservation of Ancient Monuments.

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REPORT FOR 1913–14.

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SKETCH MAP.

No. 837.

SOMALILAND.

(For Report for 1912-13 see No. 761).

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Commissioner's Office, Camp, Sheikh,

30th September, 1914.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Somaliland Protectorate for the year ended on the 31st March, 1914.

I have, &c.,

G. F. ARCHER

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

(C91.) Wt.36076/850. 1125 & 90. 3.15. B. & F. Ltd.

REPORT ON THE SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1913-1914.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue collected during the year under review amounted to £29,368, which is £1,114 below the original estimate and £545 less than the receipts for the previous year.

The figures for the past five years are appended for comparison :—

	1909-1910.	1910-1911	1911-1912.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ..	31,384	30,862	32,572	29,913	29,368

Customs receipts are responsible for 78½ per cent., or nearly four-fifths, of the total Protectorate revenue.

Compared with the returns for 1912-1913 an increase in revenue is shown under Post Office, £257, due to the Protectorate stamps being in greater demand by dealers and collectors ; Telegraphs, £272, resulting from the development of wireless telegraphy in the mercantile marine ; Miscellaneous Revenue, £56 ; and Fees, £52.

On the other hand decreases appear under Customs, £305 ; Port and Harbour dues, £20 ; Licences and Internal Revenue, £48 ; Fees of Court or Office, £80 ; and unclaimed deposits, £729.

The principal cause of the falling off in the Customs receipts was the reduced importation of rice, to which also may be attributed the decrease in Port and Harbour Dues.

A detailed explanation of the figures under this head will be found later in Part II—Trade and Shipping.

During the year fewer cases were taken in the courts and collections of Court Fees decreased accordingly.

The decrease under Unclaimed Deposits is to be accounted for by the fact that certain deposits which had remained unclaimed for five years were written off to revenue in 1912-1913, while in the year under review there were no such deposits.

The total expenditure for the year 1913-1914 amounted to £68,646, thus exceeding by £7,774 the sum expended in 1912-1913, the main increases occurring under Tribal Defence, £3,444, Camel Constabulary, £7,316, Miscellaneous Services, £1,672, and Telegraphs, £908.

The change in the political situation of the country, as the outcome of dervish activity in the month of August, necessitated the adoption of certain precautionary measures involving additional expenditure, as shown under the first three heads; while the increase under Telegraphs was occasioned by the construction of a wireless telegraph station at Bulhar, and the duplication of certain plant at the wireless telegraph stations at Berbera and Aden—both these stations being controlled by the Somaliland Protectorate.

The principal decrease in expenditure is a sum of £6,479 under Special Military, Abnormal, which is accounted for by the fact that the Government of India claim in respect of the maintenance of a detachment of native infantry was not received in time for inclusion in the accounts for the year under review.

The following table shows the total expenditure for the last five years :—

	1909-1910.	1910-1911.	1911-1912.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.
	£	£	£	£	£
Expenditure	192,838	99,223	74,845	60,872	68,646

The total assets on 1st April, 1914, were £28,862, as against £20,757 on 1st April, 1913. The liabilities amounted to £10,555, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of £18,307. Against this a sum of £11,766 will be required to meet services deferred from 1913-1914, leaving a balance of £6,541 to be carried forward to 1914–1915.

Currency.

The currency of the Somaliland Protectorate is based on the Indian rupee. A few Government of India notes are in circulation, and the British sovereign is also accepted at the coast at the rate of Rs.15 to the sovereign.

There are no banks doing business in the Protectorate, but a private firm—Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers—accepts deposits from private individuals, and cashes cheques drawn against them.

Municipal.

Berbera is the only township possessing a municipal fund. The revenue is obtained from nuisance fines, and sweeping and hut tax, which is paid by everyone who has a house or hut in the town.

Revenue during 1913-1914 amounted to Rs.7,426, showing an increase of Rs.48 on last year.

A comparative statement of revenue and expenditure for the past five years is shown below :—

	1909-1910.	1910-1911.	1911-1912.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue ..	4,656	5,150	5,058	7,378	7,426
Expenditure	7,773	6,983	6,784	6,751	7,018

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

The value of the Protectorate trade for the year 1913-1914 amounted to Rs.6,822,232. A statement of the figures for the past five years is appended for comparison :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1909–1910	4,254,731	3,093,785	7,348,516
1910–1911	3,686,925	3,466,504	7,153,429
1911–1912	3,844,953	3,420,537	7,265,490
1912–1913	3,650,459	3,201,046	6,851,505
1913–1914	3,573,287	3,248,945	6,822,232

(Excluding specie).

Imports.

Imports (excluding specie, Rs.154,396) amounted to Rs.3,573,287, distributed among the Protectorate ports as follows :—Berbera Rs.1,448,308 ; Bulhar, Rs.946,082 ; and Zeyla, Rs.1,178,897.

The principal decreases occurred in the imports of flour, Rs.8,146 ; rice, Rs.524,321 ; jowari, Rs.9,561 ; kerosine oil, Rs.5,595 ; and apparel, Rs.27,799 : while the more noticeable increases in the value of articles imported appear under the following classifications :— American grey sheeting, Rs.125,934 ; European white longcloth, Rs.44,527 ; cotton piece goods, Rs.67,904 ; dates, Rs.117,058 ; other kinds of grain, Rs.24,622 ; enamelled ware, Rs.2,498 ; sugar, Rs.48,443 ; woollen piece goods, Rs.4,906 ; rifles, Rs.27,911 ; ammunition, Rs.12,877 ; miscellaneous, Rs.28,764.

These fluctuations reflect the economic conditions prevailing in the Protectorate for the greater part of the year, the chief feature being the diminished imports of rice, but this was in part counterbalanced by the increased supply of dates, which were this year procurable at a cheap rate.

The high price of cereals in India combined with the slackness of trade deterred local merchants from laying in large stocks of rice, and to this cause the shortage may largely be attributed.

The growing popularity of American grey sheeting and European white longcloth has resulted in a decreased demand for the more expensive and ornamental kinds of apparel. Increases in the imports of grain fodder, woollen piece goods, rifles and ammunition, which are Government importations, are explained by the increases that have taken place in the armed forces of the Protectorate.

Exports.

Exports for the year under review amounted to Rs.3,371,239, made up as follows :—

	Rupees.
Somaliland produce..	3,118,298
British, Foreign, and other Colonial produce	130,647
Specie..	122,294
Total .. Rs.	**3,371,239**

Of this total Berbera exported to the value of Rs.949,624 ; Bulhar Rs.954,144 ; and Zeyla Rs.1,345,177, the balance representing specie.

The following articles constitute the principal increases :—Ghee (clarified butter), Rs.136,710 ; tallow, Rs.3,321 ; coffee, Rs.58,471 ; fibre, Rs.8,568 ; shells, mother-of-pearl, Rs.5,837 ; miscellaneous, Rs.14,410 ; but decreases occurred in the export of sheep and goat skins, Rs.107,479 ; gums, Rs.64,387 ; feathers, Rs.4,398 ; pearls, Rs.2,654 ; and charcoal, Rs.856.

The export of live stock was normal, 85,050 sheep and 1,377 cattle having being shipped to Aden during the year under review ; while the falling off in the export of sheep and goat skins is to be accounted for by an abundant rainfall, which produced a plentiful milk supply and thus enabled the Somali to reduce his consumption of meat. To the favourable season likewise may be attributed the increase in the exports of ghee and tallow. The increase in the supply of coffee, which comes from the Harar district of Abyssinia, is a favourable indication of the improved conditions prevailing in the western area of the Protectorate affecting the safety of the caravan routes.

Gums, on the other hand, are chiefly procurable from the south-eastern portion of the Protectorate, from which the natives are now excluded owing to dervish encroachment. Moreover, many indigent people previously employed in picking gum have now been able to find a means of subsistence by engaging in transport service for Government.

Shipping.

The shipping returns for the British Somaliland Protectorate show an increase of 318 vessels and 13,770 tonnage.

	1912–1913.		1913–1914.	
	Numbers.	Tons.	Numbers.	Tons.
Entered	1,493	58,716	1,670	66,149
Cleared	1,505	59,298	1,646	65,635

The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels (native owned dhows) entered and cleared during the year 1913-1914 were as under :—

	Steamers.		Sailing vessels.		Total.	
	Numbers.	Tons.	Numbers.	Tons.	Numbers.	Tons.
Berbera.						
Entered ..	120	27,925	409	8,058	529	35,983
Cleared	120	27,925	401	7,638	521	35,563
Total ..	240	55,850	810	15,696	1,050	71,546
Bulhar.						
Entered ..	92	12,038	407	5,011	499	17,049
Cleared	92	12,038	411	5,033	503	17,071
Total ..	184	24,076	818	10,044	1,002	34,120
Zeyla.						
Entered ..	56	7,643	586	5,474	642	13,117
Cleared	56	7,643	566	5,358	622	13,001
Total ..	112	15,286	1,152	10,832	1,264	26,118
Grand Total	536	95,212	2,780	36,572	3,316	131,784

The substitution of a larger coastal steamer of greater cargo capacity raised the steamer tonnage, but the vessel's more frequent direct voyages to Aden, instead of via Bulhar and Zeyla, nominally reduced the number of recorded entries. That the country-craft traffic increased to an appreciable extent is due to the return of many dhows which were temporarily employed in the carrying trade between Aden and the Arabian coast and the eastern ports of the Protectorate.

The following statement shows the nationality of the various vessels which entered and cleared during 1913–1914 in the British Somaliland Protectorate.

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Numbers.	Tons.	Numbers.	Tons.
British	1,416	60,649	1,412	60,360
Italian	7	112	7	105
French	3	397	3	397
Turkish	17	610	14	445
Arabian	226	4,272	209	4,219
Persian	1	109	1	109
Total ..	1,670	66,149	1,646	65,635

The following is a statement of the various fees collected at the Protectorate ports during the year under review :—

Harbour dues.	Rupees.
Port dues or tonnage dues	1,187
Licences and monthly fees for passenger boats	178
Licences and monthly fees for cargo boats at Berbera and Bulhar	595
Total ..	1,960
Total for 1912–1913 ..	2,038
Net decrease ..	78

Registration fees, etc.		
Berbera and Bulhar.	Registration fees	59
	Miscellaneous fees	50
Zeyla.	Registration fees	32
	Miscellaneous fees	20
	Total ..	161

Bills of Health (under the Merchant Shipping Regulations).	
Berbera	870

Water supplied to shipping at Berbera.	
Berbera water supply	159

Fees for stamping and registration of firearms.	
Berbera	45
Bulhar	—
Zeyla	2
Total ..	47

Date-market fees.	
Berbera	593

Value of the inland trade registered at Berbera and Bulhar for the year 1913–1914 was :—

	Rupees.
Berbera	1,116,125
Bulhar	1,283,415
Total ..	Rs.2,399,540

Statement of Customs collections in the British Somaliland Protectorate during the year 1913-1914 compared with the year 1912-1913 :—

Ports.	Import duty.	Export duty.	Zariba dues.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Refund.	Balance
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1912–1913.							
Berbera ..	96,405	63,303	13,554	5,303*	178,565	31	178,534
Bulhar ..	64,201	57,110	16,226	609†	137,146	—	137,146
Zeyla	45,270	24,298	—	736‡	70,304	—	70,304
Total ..	205,876	144,711	28,780	6,648	386,015	31	385,984
1913–1914.							
Berbera ..	89,920	60,866	13,346	4,311§	168,443	187	168,256
Bulhar ..	65,899	63,742	16,907	583‖	147,131	4	147,127
Zeyla	39,378	26,373	—	570¶	66,321	—	66,321
Total ..	195,197	150,981	30,253	5,464	381,895	191	381,704
Increase ..	—	6,270	1,473	—	—	160	—
Decrease ..	10,679	—	—	1,184	4,120	—	4,280

* Port dues, Rs.1,851 ; registration of vessels, Rs.208 ; and other receipts, Rs.3,244.

† Port dues, Rs.187 ; and other receipts, Rs.422.

‡ Registration of vessels, Rs.171 ; and other receipts, Rs.565.

§ Port dues, Rs.1,809 ; registration of vessels, Rs.108 ; and other receipts, Rs.2,393.

‖ Port dues, Rs.151 ; and other receipts, Rs.432.

¶ Registration of vessels, Rs.52 ; and other receipts, Rs.518.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Six ordinances were enacted during the year 1913-1914, of which the most important were the Civil Police Ordinance and the Outlying Districts Ordinance.

IV.—EDUCATION.

There are three Government schools in the Protectorate, at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla.

The pupils are children of the local Indian and Arab traders, and a few Somalis. Only Arabic is taught.

The average attendance at the various schools is as follows:—

Berbera, 84.
Bulhar, 32.
Zeyla, 32.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(*a*) *Hospitals.*—A general hospital is situated at each of the three principal coast towns, namely, at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla.

At Berbera there is accommodation for forty-two beds, at Bulhar for four beds, and at Zeyla for six beds.

Camp hospitals, constructed of mat huts erected on wooden framework, have been in use at each of the towns for meeting an epidemic of small-pox. These huts have been added to as requirements have demanded. They answer their purpose very well, and withstand the wind far better than the tents used formerly.

The number of admissions to the hospitals was 502.

The number of deaths in hospital was 23.

The small-pox epidemic of 1912 died out in April, since when there has been no recurrence.

(*b*) *Dispensaries.*—There is a dispensary attached to each of the hospitals. The attendance during the year totalled 38,987.

(*c*) *Laboratories.*—A small room is available at the hospital at Berbera for the purpose of blood examinations, urine testing, &c. No culture equipment exists, but microscope sections can be cut and mounted, and simple chemical analysis conducted.

VI.—POLICE AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The following table shows the strength and distribution of the mounted and foot police on 31st March, 1914:—

Station.	Native Officer.	Non-commissioned officers and men.
Berbera and Bulhar.		
Foot police	2	98
Mounted police ..	—	25
Zeyla.		
Foot police	1	53
Mounted police ..	1	10

There were 677 summary convictions in the subordinate courts and one conviction in the higher court during 1913-1914.

A comparative statement of cases reported to the Berbera and Bulhar courts during the year is appended :—

Year.	Cases reported.	Convictions and committals.
1909–1910	879	686
1910–1911	732	699
1911–1912	411	848
1912–1913	578	927
1913–1914	579	678

Of the 579 cases 378 appear under the head of "Other Offences," which include breaches of local rules and other minor offences, leaving 201 cases under the heading "Crime."

A comparative statement of serious crime is appended :—

Crime.	Convictions 1912–1913.	Convictions 1913–1914.
Murder and homicide ..	—	1
Robbery and thefts ..	191	165
Grievous hurt	4	36
Criminal breach of trust ..	5	1
Highway robbery	—	4
Rape	1	—
Cheating	5	2
Riot	13	—

The convictions in the Protectorate court and district courts for the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	Protectorate Court.	District Courts.
1909–1910	1	685
1910–1911	2	697
1911–1912	2	846
1912–1913	—	927
1913–1914	1	677

The Protectorate court returns show cases tried before His Majesty's Commissioner, and the district courts figures represent cases tried in the district and subordinate courts of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla.

The following table shows the number of escapes from gaol in Berbera and Bulhar during the past three years :—

Year.	Escapes.	Recaptures.
1911–1912	10	2
1912–1913	8	4
1913–1914	6	2

The average of convicted prisoners in Berbera and Bulhar gaols was 95, as against 142 in 1912-1913.

Two deaths took place amongst the prisoners during the year.

Criminal statistics for the Zeyla district show a decrease on the preceding year, when 65 cases were tried. For the year under review 58 cases came before the court, mostly for trivial offences.

VII.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

A full statement on the subject was issued in the form of a Parliamentary Paper (Cd. 7066) published in September, 1913, and in a subsequent Paper (Cd. 7566) dated August, 1914, the latter also dealing with the proposed increases in the armed forces Protectorate.

VIII.—POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

No reliable information is forthcoming as to the Somali population of the country at the present time, but 300,000 is given as an approximation.

In Berbera it is estimated that the population varies from 10,000 in the hot weather, namely May to September, to 25,000 to 30,000 in the trading season. Bulhar also has a floating population, which is rather smaller, while Zeyla varies from 5,000 in the hot weather to 7,000 in the remaining months of the year.

The only census of the alien community in the coast towns of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla was taken in 1911, the return being as follows:—European, 26, Indian, 741, Arabs, 1,857, mixed population, 789.

Sanitation.

The water supply of Berbera is brought through a 6-inch pipe from springs at Dubar, eight miles distant.

The quarantine station at Berbera is equipped with a "Clayton Disinfector."

Climate.

The climate is chiefly remarkable for its very dry character. In the interior it is healthy, generally speaking, throughout the year, but the same can scarcely be said of the coast belt. Here during the "Kharif," i.e., the months of June, July, August, and not infrequently half of September, the atmospheric conditions are very trying for Europeans, and the effect on the nervous system is most pronounced. Terrific gales of sand-laden wind are then prevalent and the heat is intense, with the thermometer registering 105–115°F. in the shade at mid-day, and seldom falling below 100° at night. Most of the sickness, however, occurs during the months immediately preceding and immediately following the "Kharif."

During the months of November, December, January, and February the climatic conditions on the coast greatly improve.

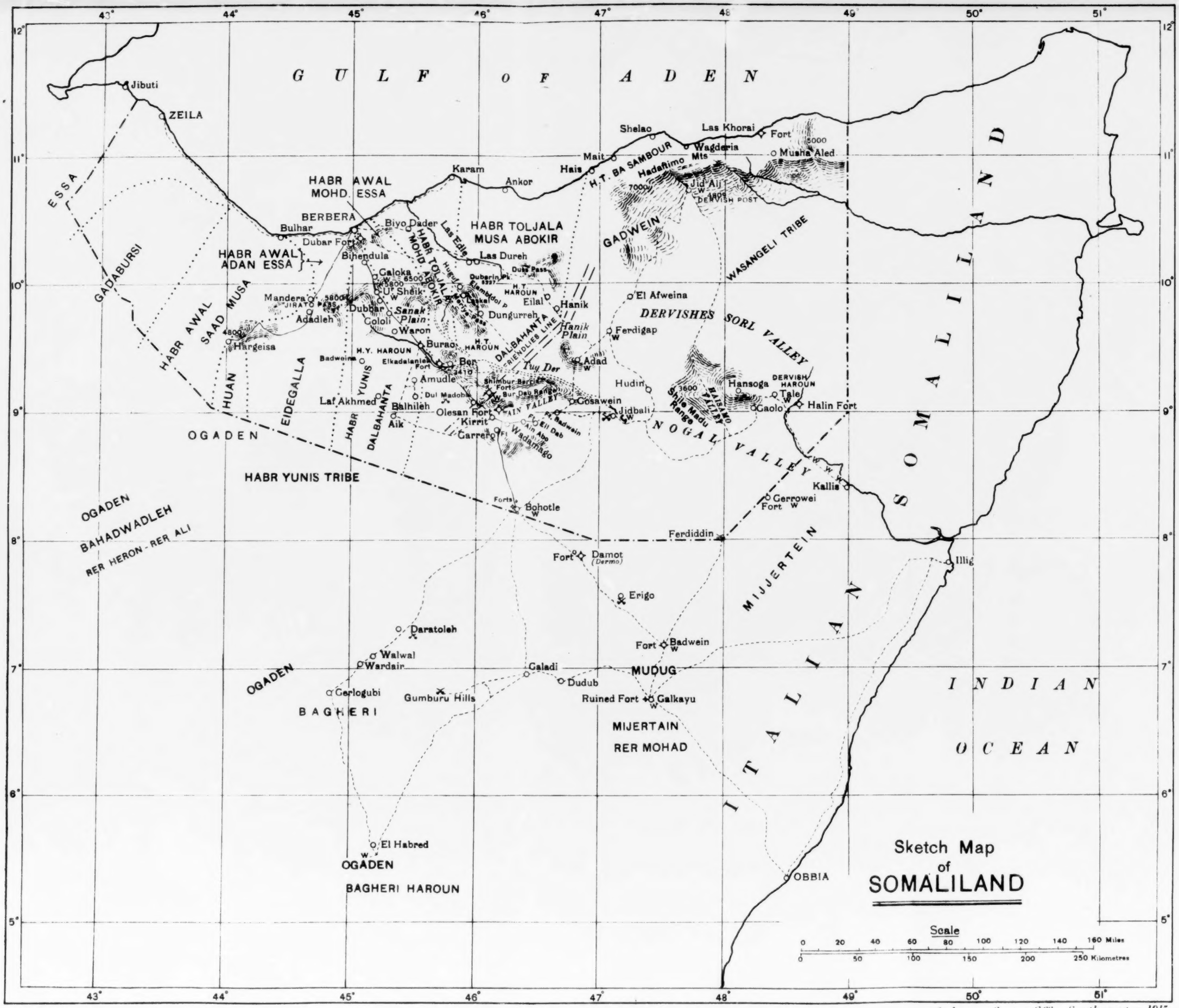
IX.—TELEGRAPHS.

The Aden-Berbera wireless service has afforded uninterrupted communication between the Protectorate and other countries throughout the year.

The modification of the transmitting apparatus at each station mentioned in the report for 1912–1913, was only effected at the end of the year, the delay being partially due to deferred shipments of apparatus. This modification consisted of installation of new dynamos, motor generators, disc dischargers, high frequency transformers, switchboards, etc., together with all necessary choking coils and appurtenances, at each of the Aden and Berbera stations. As a result of these alterations the system of transmission has been converted from the Marconi slow spark to the Marconi musical spark, the frequency of the latter being variable over a range of approximately between 500 and 600 per second. There has been evidence during the short time that the new gear has been working that the stations have been rendered capable of more efficient service, as a great deal of the difficulty formerly experienced during times of bad atmospheric disturbance appears to have been largely eliminated. Further, the additional apparatus has been installed in such a manner that in the event of a breakdown the original set may be brought into use in a few minutes. The good condition of the apparatus has been maintained with the exception of the accumulator batteries, which have deteriorated. The cause of this is not easy to discover, but it is no doubt partly due to the large quantity of extremely fine sand which, in spite of every precaution, finds its way into the cells in the "Kharif" season.

There has been a marked increase in the number of messages, the figures being 4,408, against 3,315 of last year, which is to be accounted for by the increased traffic with ships.

During the year a small wireless station has been erected at Bulhar to maintain communication with Berbera; but it is of low power and only suitable for this work.



C.O. Nº 51

Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton, 1915.

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805	Gambia	1913
806	Gold Coast	"
807	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
808	Sierra Leone	"
809	Bahamas	1913–1914
810	Cayman Islands (Jamaica)	1912–1913
811	Fiji	1913
812	Ashanti	"
813	Basutoland	1913–1914
814	Hong Kong	1913
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816	Imperial Institute	1913
817	Falkland Islands	"
818	Malta	1913–1914
819	Trinidad and Tobago	"
820	Jamaica	"
821	Northern Nigeria	1913
822	Grenada	"
823	Zanzibar	"
824	Barbados	1913–1914
825	Southern Nigeria	1913
826	Mauritius	"
827	British Honduras	"
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913–1914
829	Tonga Protectorate	"
830	Swaziland	"
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913–1914
836	St. Lucia	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.

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SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1914-15.

(For Report for 1913–14 see No. 837.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1915.

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SKETCH MAP.

No. 867.

SOMALILAND.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 837.)

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Commissioner's Camp, Sheikh,

8th September, 1915.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Somaliland Protectorate for the year ended on the 31st March, 1915.

I have, &c.,

G. F. ARCHER.

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

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REPORT ON THE SOMALILAND BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1914-1915.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue collected during the year under review amounted to £23,831, which is £6,476 less than the estimated amount, and a decrease of £5,537 on the actual revenue for the previous year.

The revenue figures for the past five years are as follows :—

1910-1911.	1911-1912.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.
£	£	£	£	£
30,862	32,572	29,913	29,368	23,831

The main source of revenue is Customs, and during 1914–1915 the collections under this head alone amounted to £19,108.

Compared with the returns for 1913–1914, the chief decreases in revenue are as under :—

(1) Customs, which shows a decrease of £3,957, due to the outbreak of war, as indigenous produce could not be sold at profitable rates, and the export of gums, skins, hides, fibre, and ghee were therefore less than normal.

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(2) Licences and internal revenue, where there is a decrease of £478, which is also due to a large extent to the outbreak of war as the Zariba dues were less than normal. The decrease is also to some extent due to fewer criminal cases tried before the Courts.

(3) Post Office. The decrease under this head of £846 is due to the sale of stamps to dealers and collectors being considerably less than usual.

The increases in revenue are under the heads "Port and Harbour Dues," £44, due to a larger number of steamers calling than in the previous year, and "Telegraphs," £49, due to an increase in the number of Admiralty messages dealt with by the Protectorate wireless stations.

The total expenditure for the year was £113,283, which is £44,637 more than the sum expended in 1913–1914. This increase in expenditure is almost entirely due to the increase in strength of the military forces of the Protectorate necessitated by the activity of the Mullah. The other increases are comparatively small, as will be seen from the "Comparative Yearly Statement of Revenue and Expenditure." There were decreases under some heads, and explanations of these decreases will be found in the comparative statement.

The following table shows the total expenditure incurred during the last five years :—

1910-1911.	1911-1912.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.
£	£	£	£	£
99,223	74,845	60,872	68,646	113,283

The total assets on 1st April, 1915, were £31,043, as against £28,862 on 1st April, 1914. The liabilities amounted to £15,188, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of £15,855. Against this excess a sum of £9,285 will be required to meet services deferred from 1914-1915, leaving a balance of £6,570 to be carried forward to 1915–1916.

Currency.

The currency of the Somaliland Protectorate is based on the Indian rupee. A few Government of India notes are in circulation, and the British sovereign is also accepted at the coast at the rate of Rs. 15 to the sovereign.

There are no banks doing business in the Protectorate, but a private firm—Messrs. Cowasjee, Dinshaw and Brothers—accepts deposits from private individuals, and cashes cheques drawn against them.

Municipal.

Berbera is the only township possessing a municipal fund. The revenue is obtained from nuisance fines, and sweeping and hut tax, which is paid by everyone who has a house or hut in the town.

Revenue during 1914-1915 amounted to Rs.7,329, showing an decrease of Rs.97 on last year.

A comparative statement of revenue and expenditure for the past five years is shown below :—

	1910-1911.	1911-1912.	1912-1913.	1913-1914	1914-1915.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue ..	5,150	5,058	7,378	7,426	7,329
Expenditure	6,983	6,784	6,751	7,018	6,650

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

The value of the Protectorate trade for the year 1914-1915 amounted to Rs.5,686,645. A statement of the figures for the past five years is appended for comparison :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1910–1911	3,686,925	3,466,504	7,153,429
1911–1912	3,844,953	3,420,537	7,265,490
1912–1913	3,650,459	3,201,046	6,851,505
1913–1914	3,573,287	3,248,945	6,822,232
1914–1915	3,043,250	2,643,395	5,686,645

(Excluding specie).

Imports.

Imports (excluding specie, Rs.200,523) amounted to Rs.3,043,250, distributed among the Protectorate ports as follows :—Berbera Rs.1,582,987 ; Bulhar, Rs.652,254 ; and Zeyla, Rs.799,009.

The principal decreases occurred in the imports of American grey sheetings, Rs.262,330; cotton piece goods, Rs.108,852; dates, Rs.34,878; flour, Rs.12,495; rice, Rs.177,479; enamelled ware, Rs.3,707; sugar, Rs.88,286; tea, Rs.4,239; tobacco, Rs.6,135; while the more noticeable increases appear under the following classifications:—Camels, Rs.18,350; ammunition and rifles, Rs.23,744; drugs and medicines, Rs.2,975; grain (jowari), Rs.36,995; other kinds of cereals, Rs.75,316; saddlery, Rs.18,407; iron and steel ware, Rs.17,226; oil, petroleum, Rs.9,213; preserved provisions, Rs.6,847; woollen piece goods, Rs.6,412. The falling off in the imports must be attributed to the decline in trade generally due to the European war.

Exports.

Exports for the year under review amounted to Rs.2,823,778, made up as follows:—

	Rupees.
Somaliland produce	2,552,960
British, Foreign, and other Colonial produce	90,435
Specie	180,383
Total ..	Rs.2,823,778

Of this total Berbera exported to the value of Rs.738,770; Bulhar Rs.779,456; and Zeyla Rs.1,125,169, the balance representing specie.

The following articles constitute the principal decreases:—Sheep and goats, Rs.32,605; butter, Rs.181,550; coffee, Rs.31,277; fibre, Rs.22,166; gums, Rs.55,486; hides, Rs.46,668; pearls, Rs.12,990; skins, Rs.227,579; tallow, Rs.6,941; miscellaneous, Rs.18,714.

Exceptionally heavy rain produced an extensive and rich pasture and resulted in a favourable breeding season. Consequently the Somalis were able to substitute milk, the staple food of the people, for other necessaries. Fewer sheep, also, were slaughtered owing to this cause, and to the temporary interruption of the skin trade on the outbreak of war. Ghee, or clarified butter, was abundant, but the local demand, especially for the Indian and Somali troops, restricted the foreign supply. Such articles as coffee, gums, and fibre were withheld from shipment owing to the general stagnation in trade.

Shipping.

The shipping returns for the Somaliland Protectorate show a decrease of 112 vessels and an increase of 44,655 tonnage.

	1913–1914.		1914–1915.	
	Numbers.	Tons.	Numbers.	Tons.
Entered	1,670	66,149	1,603	88,092
Cleared	1,646	65,635	1,601	88,347

The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels (native-owned dhows) entered and cleared during the year 1914-1915 were as follows :—

	Steamers.		Sailing vessels.		Total.	
	Numbers.	Tons.	Numbers.	Tons.	Numbers.	Tons.
Berbera.						
Entered ..	116	41,918	410	8,326	526	50,244
Cleared	116	41,918	406	8,562	522	50,480
Total ..	232	83,836	816	16,888	1,048	100,724
Bulhar.						
Entered ..	94	17,669	408	4,692	502	22,361
Cleared	94	17,669	410	4,711	504	22,380
Total ..	188	35,338	818	9,403	1,006	44,741
Zeyla.						
Entered ..	53	10,357	522	5,130	575	15,487
Cleared	53	10,357	522	5,130	575	15,487
Total ..	106	20,714	1,044	10,260	1,150	30,974
Grand Total	526	139,888	2,678	36,551	3,204	176,439

The entry of an additional number of rice steamers, mainly laden with the military contractor's consignments, combined with fewer but heavier burdened country craft, increased the collective tonnage from 131,784 in 1913–1914 to 176,439 in 1914–1915.

The nationality of vessels entered and cleared during 1914–1915 in the British Somaliland Protectorate is thus made up :—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Numbers.	Tons.	Numbers.	Tons.
British	1,353	80,129	1,357	80,405
Italian	13	228	13	228
French	1	114	1	114
Turkish	48	645	46	714
Arabian	182	3,978	178	3,888
Persian	5	693	5	693
Austrian	1	2,305	1	2,305
Total ..	1,603	88,092	1,601	88,347

The following is a statement of the various fees collected at the Protectorate ports during the year under review :—

Harbour dues.

	Rupees.
Port dues or tonnage dues	1,955
Licences and monthly fees for passenger boats	169
Licences and monthly fees for cargo boats at Berbera and Bulhar	497
Total ..	2,621
Total for 1913–1914 ..	1,960
Net increase ..	Rs.661

Registration fees, etc.

Berbera and Bulhar.	Registration fees	65
	Miscellaneous fees	33
Zeyla.	Registration fees	42
	Miscellaneous fees	20
	Total ..	Rs.160

Bills of Health (under the Merchant Shipping Regulations).

Berbera	Rs.844

Water supplied to shipping at Berbera.

Berbera water supply	Rs.215

Fees for stamping and registration of firearms.

Berbera	39
Bulhar	—
Zeyla	10
Total ..	Rs.49

Date-market fees.

Berbera	Rs.597

Value of the inland trade registered at Berbera and Bulhar for the year 1914–1915 was :—

	Rupees.
Berbera	936,481
Bulhar	867,793
Total ..	Rs.1,804,274

Statement of Customs collections in the British Somaliland Protectorate during the year 1914-1915 compared with the year 1913-1914 :—

Ports.	Import duty.	Export duty.	Zariba dues.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Refund.	Balance
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1913–1914.							
Berbera ..	89,920	60,866	13,346	4,311*	168,443	187	168,256
Bulhar ..	65,899	63,742	16,907	583†	147,131	4	147,127
Zeyla	39,378	26,373	—	570‡	66,321	—	66,321
Total ..	195,197	150,891	30,253	5,464	381,895	191	381,704
1914–1915.							
Berbera ..	94,856	47,970	10,219	4,934§	157,979	20	157,959
Bulhar ..	45,521	51,602	14,381	525‖	112,029	8	112,021
Zeyla	25,605	21,096	—	551¶	47,252	—	47,252
Total ..	165,982	120,668	24,600	6,010	317,260	28	317,232
Increase ..	—	—	—	546	—	—	—
Decrease ..	29,215	30,313	5,653	—	64,635	163	64,472

* Port dues, Rs.1,809; registration of vessels' fees, Rs.108; and other receipts, Rs.2,393.

† Port dues, Rs.151; and other receipts, Rs.432.

‡ Registration of vessels' fees, Rs.52; and other receipts, Rs.518.

§ Port dues, Rs.2,509; registration of vessels' fees, Rs.98; and other receipts, Rs 2,327.

‖ Port dues, Rs.112; and other receipts, Rs.413.

¶ Registration of vessels' fees, Rs.62; and other receipts, Rs.489.

III.—LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were enacted during the year 1914–1915 :—

Alcoholic Liquors Ordinance.

Articles of Commerce (Returns, etc.) Ordinance.

Somaliland Native Forces Ordinance.

Somaliland Indian Contingent Amendment Ordinance.

IV.—EDUCATION.

There are three Government schools in the Protectorate, at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla.

The pupils are children of the local Indian and Arab traders, and a few Somalis. Only Arabic is taught.

The average attendance at the various schools is as follows :—

Berbera, 88.

Bulhar, 30.

Zeyla, 68.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(a) *Hospitals.*—A general hospital is situated at each of the three principal coast towns, namely, at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla.

At Berbera there is accommodation for forty-four beds, at Bulhar and Zeyla for four beds.

Camp hospitals, constructed of mat huts erected on wooden framework, have been in use at each of the towns for meeting an epidemic of small-pox. These huts have been added to as requirements have demanded. They answer their purpose very well, and withstand the wind far better than the tents used formerly.

The number of admissions to the hospitals was 418.

The number of deaths in hospital was 42.

Small-pox was reported from the Hargeisa district during the year, having spread from Abyssinia, where it is endemic, but it did not reach the coast towns. Vaccine lymph has been entrusted to capable persons at such places as can be reached in the Protectorate area. Owing to the entirely nomadic conditions prevailing in the interior it has been impossible to obtain any reliable details as to the results obtained, nor has any officer remained for sufficient time at any centre of population to collect any correct data.

(*b*) *Dispensaries.*—There is a dispensary attached to each of the hospitals. The attendance during the year totalled 60,788.

(*c*) *Laboratories.*—A small room is available at the hospital at Berbera for the purpose of blood examinations, urine testing, &c. No culture equipment exists, but microscope sections can be cut and mounted, and simple chemical analysis conducted.

VI.—POLICE AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The following table shows the strength and distribution of the mounted and foot police on 31st March, 1915 :—

Section.	Native Officer.	Non-commissioned officers and men.
Berbera and Bulhar.		
Foot police	2	112
Mounted police ..	—	25
Zeyla.		
Foot police	1	46
Mounted police ..	1	10

There were 539 summary convictions in the subordinate courts (Berbera and Bulhar) and two acquittals in the higher court during 1914-1915.

A comparative statement of cases reported to the Berbera and Bulhar courts during the year is appended :—

Year.	Cases reported.	Convictions and committals.
1910–1911	732	699
1911–1912	411	848
1912–1913	578	927
1913–1914	579	678
1914–1915	590	541

Of the 590 cases, 376 appear under the head of "Other Offences," which include breaches of local rules and other minor offences, leaving 214 cases under the heading "Crime."

A comparative statement of serious crime is appended :—

Crime.	Convictions 1913–1914.	Convictions 1914–1915
Murder	1	0
Robbery and thefts ..	166	167
Grievous hurt	36	27
Breaches of Fire-arms Regulations	5	8
Criminal breach of trust ..	1	4
Highway robbery	4	3
Cheating	2	5

The convictions in the Protectorate court and district courts for the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	Protectorate Court.	District Courts.
1910–1911	2	697
1911–1912	2	846
1912–1913	—	927
1913–1914	1	676
1914–1915	1	539

The Protectorate court returns show cases tried before His Majesty's Commissioner, and the district courts figures represent cases tried in the district and subordinate courts of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla.

The following table shows the number of escapes from gaol in Berbera and Bulhar during the past three years :—

Year.	Escapes.	Recaptures.
1912–1913	8	4
1913–1914	6	2
1914–1915	3	3

The average of convicted prisoners in Berbera and Bulhar gaols was 91, as against 95 in 1913-1914.

Three deaths took place amongst the prisoners during the year.

Criminal statistics for the Zeyla district show an increase on the preceding year, when 58 cases were tried. For the year under review 62 cases came before the court, mostly for trivial offences.

VII.—POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

No reliable information is forthcoming as to the Somali population of the country at the present time, but 300,000 is given as an approximation.

In Berbera it is estimated that the population varies from 10,000 in the hot weather, namely, May to September, to 25,000 to 30,000 in the trading season. Bulhar also has a floating population, which is rather smaller, while Zeyla varies from 5,000 in the hot weather to 7,000 in the remaining months of the year.

The only census of the alien community, excluding Europeans, in the coast towns of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla was taken in 1911, the return then being as follows:—Indian, 741, Arabs, 1,857, and mixed population, 789.

Sanitation.

The water supply of Berbera is brought through a 6-inch pipe from springs at Dubar, eight miles distant.

The quarantine station at Berbera is equipped with a "Clayton Disinfector."

Climate.

The climate is chiefly remarkable for its very dry character. In the interior it is healthy, generally speaking, throughout the year, but the same can scarcely be said of the coast belt. Here, during the "Kharif," i.e., the months of June, July, August, and, not infrequently, half of September, the atmospheric conditions are very trying for Europeans, and the effect on the nervous system is most pronounced. Terrific gales of sand-laden wind are then prevalent and the heat is intense, with the thermometer registering 105–115°F. in the shade at

mid-day, and seldom falling below 100° at night. Most of the sickness, however, occurs during the months immediately preceding and immediately following the "Khanf."

During the months of November, December, January, and February the climatic conditions on the coast greatly improve.

VIII.—MILITARY.

The military forces of the Protectorate were considerably increased during the year under review, in order to protect the friendly tribes from dervish raids, to keep open the caravan roads, and to preserve order in the interior.

The mounted Corps received their preliminary training in Sheikh and Galoli, and early in November Burao was occupied as military head-quarters, while simultaneously a military post was established at Las Dureh, situated some 75 miles east south-east of Berbera, where there is an old Government fort.

At the time this forward move was made the dervishes were in occupation of the Ain valley, which forms one of the principal grazing grounds of the friendly tribes, their line then running approximately from Hais on the sea coast (long. 46° 53′ E.), through Shimber Berris at the head of the Ain valley, to Bohotleh on the southern confines of the Protectorate. Strong forts had been constructed at Jidali and Shimber Berris, which were used by the Mullah as forward bases for raiding the friendly tribes; of these the latter was considered the most menacing. Accordingly, a force consisting of fourteen officers and 520 rank and file under the Officer Commanding Troops, moved from Burao in the middle of November to attack Shimber Berris. The first attack on the 19th November failed, but a second attack, assisted by a gun brought from Burao, was successful on 23rd November, and all the forts on the top of the Burdab were captured. Without explosives it was found impossible to demolish these very strong forts and the dervishes, who originally evacuated all forts both on top and at the foot of the range, returned during December and reoccupied them. Shimber Berris was again attacked at the beginning of February, 1915, by a column, partly mounted and partly dismounted, and accompanied by a detachment of 23rd Sikh Pioneers from Aden. On this occasion the attack was completely successful. After some severe cave-fighting the enemy was defeated with heavy loss, and evacuated the Ain valley, posts in which have since then been securely held by illaloes (scouts). The losses in these two actions amounted to one officer killed and five wounded, four rank and file killed and twenty-four wounded. Tribal posts, four killed and eleven wounded.

During the year the mounted column has undertaken extensive patrols on different occasions. The Mullah has made no attempt at a counter offensive, and the illaloes in the Ain valley have been very successful in driving off small dervish raiding parties and in recovering stock that has been captured.

IX.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

With the military reoccupation of the interior a complete transformation has been brought about in the internal condition of the country, and peace amongst the various friendly tribes within the protected area has been well established. The Somalis have shown themselves quick to respond to the new order of things, and the settlement of tribal disputes and the return of looted property have been proceeded with apace. It is clear that the establishment of a fair measure of law and order amongst the friendly tribes presents no insuperable difficulty, though the raids by Abyssinian Somali subjects from across the border are apt to lead to disturbances and reprisals.

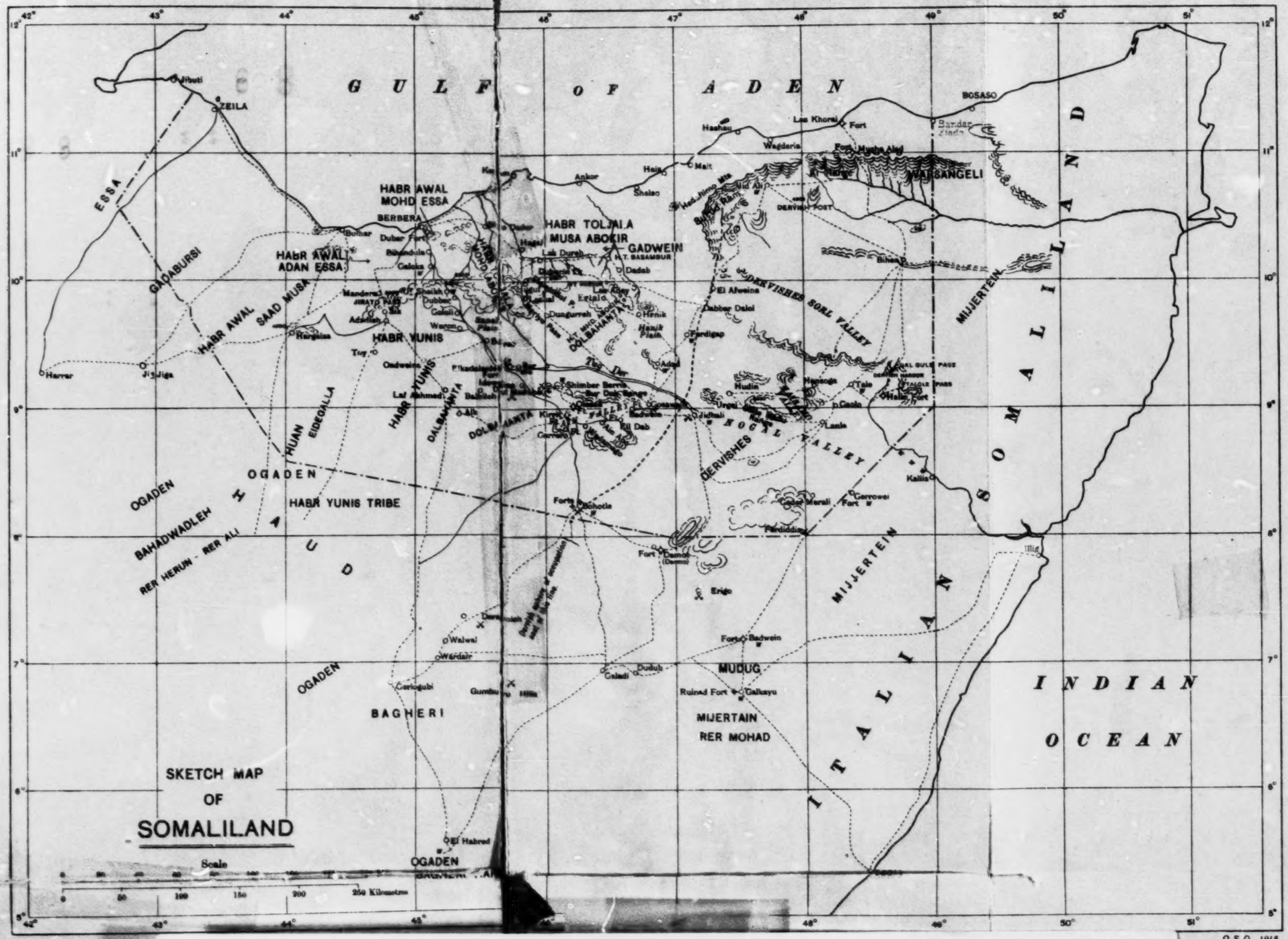
With regard to the commission of crime in the interior by the individual, the position is not so satisfactory and the cause is to be found mainly in a class rendered destitute in the past by the depredations of the Mullah. At present, practically all cases in the interior are dealt with in accordance with Somali custom, under which a tribe is saddled with the responsibility for the actions of the individual, but it is doubtful whether, in practice, this procedure provides a sufficient deterrent, and the gradual extension of criminal law to the interior to deal with such crimes as murder, highway robbery, and caravan loot is a matter now under consideration. Immunity from dervish attack, a good breeding season owing to an abundant rainfall and good grazing, and increased employment on transport and other Government services, will all tend to mitigate this evil and bring about an era of greater prosperity.

Attention is being paid to the possibilities of date cultivation in the coastal regions and every encouragement given to Somalis to extend their "Jowari" crops in the western districts bordering on Abyssinia.

X.—TELEGRAPHS.

The Aden-Berbera wireless service has afforded uninterrupted communication between the Protectorate and other countries and ships throughout the year.

SKETCH MAP OF SOMALILAND



The increase in the total number of messages dealt with (9,966 against 7,381 dealt with in the previous year), is largely due to the new Berbera-Sheikh land line) where only telegrams on Government service are accepted.

The decrease in the number of messages between Berbera and Bulhar is due to a general slackness in trade, owing to the war. The slight decrease in the number of ships' messages has been due to the number of merchantmen that have been converted into transports, auxiliary cruisers, and hospital ships, whose messages are now transmitted free of coast station charges; another cause being the absence of German and Austrian boats since the declaration of war.

The Aden station, in particular, has been of great assistance to ships.

A land line has been erected from Berbera to Sheikh during the year. The utility of this line is indicated by the number of Government telegrams that have been handled, which has done away with the practice of maintaining mounted messengers at certain points between Berbera and Sheikh for carrying urgent messages.

Although since 1st November, 1914, all Government messages passing between Berbera and Bulhar, and also those transmitted from Berbera and Bulhar to Aden have been allowed to pass free of coast station charges, the revenue still exceeds that of last year, £1,029 being earned against £1,003 in the previous year.

The Bulhar wireless station has been working fairly satisfactorily.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
830	Swaziland	1913–1914
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913–1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913–1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914–1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914–1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914–1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914–1915
858	Basutoland	1914
859	Gold Coast	"
860	Jamaica	1914–1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914–1915
866	Swaziland	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 902.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1915-16.

(For Report for 1914–15 see No. 867.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

October, 1916.

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A Sketch Map will be found in the previous Report, No. 867: [Cd. 7622-58].

No. 902.

SOMALILAND.

(For Report for 1914–15 see No. 867.)

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Commissioner's Camp, Bazan,

23rd August, 1916.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Annual Report on the Somaliland Blue Book for the year 1915–1916.

I have, &c.,

G. F. ARCHER.

The Right Honourable

A. Bonar Law, P.C., M.P.,

&c. &c. &c.

Secretary of State for the Colonies.

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REPORT ON THE SOMALILAND BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1915-1916.

I.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

1. The revenue of the Protectorate from all sources for the year under review amounted to £29,270, representing a deficit of £4,567 on the estimate, but an increase of £5,439, as compared with the previous year.

2. The following table shows the revenue for the last three years :—

Year	£
1913–14	29,368
1914–15	23,831
1915–16	29,270

3. As in previous years, the Customs proved the main source of revenue; and during 1915–16 the collections under this head amounted to £26,021, as compared with £19,108 in 1914–15. This increase was entirely due to the import and export duty levied at the Berbera and Bulhar ports being raised from 7 per cent. to 10 per cent. *ad valorem* during the year: and it cannot be said to indicate improvement in the trade of the Protectorate, which continued to be adversely affected by war conditions.

4. The Parliamentary Grant-in-Aid amounted to £89,000 during the year under review.

Expenditure.

5. The total expenditure for the year amounted to £124,467, an increase of £11,184, as compared with the figure for the previous year.

6. The following table shows the actual expenditure for the last three years:—

Year	£
1913–14	68,646
1914–15	113,283
1915–16	124,467

7. The large increase in expenditure during the period 1914–15 must be attributed to the strengthening of the military forces in the country. The increase in the present year, as compared with 1914–15, is due chiefly to the formation of tribal posts by which a good measure of protection from minor Dervish raids is afforded to the friendly tribes; and to the establishment of a wireless telegraph station at Burao, military headquarters, and the purchase of a portable wireless set.

Financial Position on 31st March, 1916.

8. The excess of Assets over Liabilities on the 31st March, 1916, was £9,658, as against £15,855 at the close of the previous year.

Currency and Banking.

9. The monetary unit in the Protectorate is the Indian rupee. The following Indian coins are also in circulation:—pice, ½ anna, 1, 2, 4, and 8 annas. The British sovereign is accepted at the coast, the rate of exchange being Rs.15 to the sovereign. The value of coin in circulation is estimated at Rs.6,000,000.

10. Bank of England notes and Government of India notes also circulate, being payable on demand without discount.

11. There are no banks established in the Protectorate; but a private firm, Messrs. Cowasjee, Dinshaw, and Brothers, accepts deposits from private individuals and cashes cheques drawn against them.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

12. The value of the Protectorate trade for the year 1915-1916 amounted to £402,377. The following comparative table shows the value of the imports and exports, excluding specie, for each of the last three years:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1913–1914	3,573,287	3,248,945	6,822,232
1914–1915	3,043,250	2,643,395	5,686,645
1915–1916	3,176,710	2,858,947	6,035,657

Imports.

13. The Import trade, which, excluding specie to the value of Rs. 627,657, amounted to Rs. 3,176,710, was distributed among the three Protectorate ports in the following proportions :—Berbera, Rs.1,909,977; Bulhar Rs.550,689; and Zeyla Rs.716,044.

14. Excluding such items as transport animals, saddlery, rifles, iron, and steel ware (mainly barbed wire), etc., which are imported on behalf of the Government, the only appreciable decreases are in the value of cereals, American grey sheetings, flour, and petroleum; and these are attributable to war conditions and the economic regulations introduced at Bombay and Aden with a view to restricting certain exports. The rise of 50 per cent. in the price of rice caused a greater consumption of the cheaper grain jowari; and the enbanced price of both grains brought about an increased demand for dates.

Exports.

15. Exports for the year under review amounted in all to Rs.2,991,505, of which the Berbera exports amounted to Rs.938,418; at Bulhar to Rs.683,759; and at Zeyla to Rs.1,236,770, the balance being specie.

16. The presence of the Aden Field Force created an abnormal demand in Aden for beef and mutton; and prices rose accordingly. A profitable business was also done in skins and hides; and more of the latter would have been exported had not the price for bullocks in Aden risen so high. Other native products, *e.g.*, gums and resins, were sold at twice or three times their usual price, while those exported in lesser quantities, such as *ghee* (clarified butter), fibre, and fibre-rope were partly retained to meet the requirements of the Government or the Government contractor. *Guano* was not obtainable because Mait Island, where the manure is procured, was closed to the dhow traffic in connection with the political situation. The Arabs usually employed in the shark fishing industry did not visit the British ports, but engaged in the more lucrative carrying trade between the Red Sea ports, with the result that salt fish was not obtainable in Somaliland.

Shipping.

17. The following is a comparative table of the shipping cleared and entered in the Protectorate ports during the past two years :—

	1914–15.		1915–16.	
	Numbers.	Tons.	Numbers.	Tons.
Entered	1,603	88,092	1,654	71,294
Cleared	1,601	88,347	1,651	71,227

III.—EDUCATION.

18. There are Government native schools in the three coast towns. The average daily attendance during the year was 84 at Berbera, 23 at Bullhar, and 36 at Zeyla. The total expenditure amounted to £92. The pupils are children of the local Indian and Arab traders and a few Somalis. Arabic and simple arithmetic are the only subjects taught.

19. The Somali language has never been reduced to writing. Educated Somalis write Arabic, but they have never made any attempt to write their own language, either in Arabic or other characters. The reading and writing of Arabic, therefore, constitutes literacy.

IV.—MEDICAL.

20. The general public health during the year under review was satisfactory, although the rise in the price of food-stuffs affected the poor.

21. At Hargeisa, in the western area of the Protectorate near the Abyssinian frontier, a fever, simulating relapsing fever, is rife among the natives. The Medical Officer in charge of troops, who has had opportunities of examining the blood of members of a Camel Corps Company stationed near Hargeisa, reports that his examination was negative as regards the *Spirillum Obermeieri*, the causative agent of tick, or African relapsing fever, but malarial parasites were found in the blood of six cases. All patients reacted to large doses of quinine, but convalescence was slow in most cases. The late Medical Officer in charge of troops, however, when reporting on relapsing fever at Hargeisa last year, stated that he had discovered the *spirillum* in the blood of patients.

22. There are general hospitals at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla. At Berbera there is accommodation for forty-four beds: at Bulhar and Zeyla for four beds. The number of admissions to the hospitals was 924; and the number of deaths 41.

23. Camp hospitals constructed of mat huts, erected on wooden frame-work, are in use in each of the towns as isolation hospitals.

V.—POLICE AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

24. The distribution of the Foot Police on the 31st March, 1916, was 1 native officer and 125 non-commissioned officers and men at Berbera and Bulhar: 1 native officer and 46 non-commissioned

officers and men at Zeyla. On the same date there were 44 non-commissioned officers and men of the Mounted Police at Berbera and Bulhar: 1 native officer and 10 non-commissioned officers and men of the Mounted Police at Zeyla.

25. 373 cases were reported and there were 449 summary convictions in the subordinate courts of Berbera and Bulhar.

26. Of the 373 cases reported, 195 appear under the head of "Other offences," which includes breaches of local rules and other minor offences, leaving 178 under the heading "Crime." Of these 142 were robbery and thefts, and 16 were cases of grievous hurt.

VI.—POPULATION AND CLIMATE.

27. No reliable information is available as to the Somali population in the country, but 300,000 is generally quoted as an approximate figure. It is estimated that the Berbera population varies from 10,000 in the hot weather, *viz.*, May to September, to 25,000 or 30,000 in the trading season. Bulhar has a somewhat smaller floating population, while Zeyla varies from 5,000 in the hot weather to 7,000 during the cooler season. A census of the alien community, excluding Europeans, was taken in the three coast towns in 1911, the return then being as follows:—Indian, 741; Arabs, 1,857; and mixed population, 798.

Climate.

28. The climate is chiefly remarkable for its very dry character. In the interior it is healthy throughout the year, as compared with the coast belt, where during the "Khariff" season, *i.e.*, from about the 1st of June to mid-September, the atmospheric conditions are exceedingly trying for Europeans, the effect on the nervous system being most pronounced. During this period terrific gales of sand-laden wind are prevalent and the heat is intense, the thermometer registering 105° to 115°F. in the shade, and seldom falling below 100° at night. Sickness is most prevalent, however, during the months immediately preceding and immediately succeeding the "Khariff." During the months of November, December, January, and February the climatic conditions on the coast greatly improve.

VII.—MUNICIPALITIES.

29. Municipal revenue is obtained from hut tax payable by all hut or house owners in Berbera, and the town is kept clean by a staff of sweepers.

30. The revenue collected during 1915–16 amounted to Rs.7,651, representing an increase of Rs.322 on last year's collection. The expenditure amounted to Rs.16,886, and the deficit became a charge against balances. The exceptionally heavy expenditure this year was due to the large amount of distress in the town, necessitating the institution of relief works and the employment of destitutes in building roads and making other improvements in the town.

VIII.—MILITARY.

30. During the year under review no active operations against the Mullah's following were undertaken. But the mounted columns, based on Burao, have carried out, to secure the grazing grounds of the friendlies, extensive patrols as far as Bohotleh, Badwein, Gosawein, and Eil Afweina. Since the defeats inflicted on the Dervishes at Shimber Berris in November, 1914, and February, 1915, (forming the subject of despatches published in the *London Gazette* No. 29,690 of the 2nd August, 1916), the Mullah has made no counter offensive against us and has confined himself to small raids by parties of horsemen, most of which have been successfully dealt with, unassisted, by the irregulars from the tribal posts.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

31. In spite of outside influences seeking to create disturbances within the Protectorate, the friendly Somalis have remained quiet and loyal. The security of the caravan roads has been well maintained and crimes of violence in the interior are markedly on the decrease. Inter-tribal fighting within our sphere has altogether ceased. Some progress has been made in administration, and the internal situation of the country may generally be regarded as satisfactory.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914–1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	,,
871	Barbados	,,
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914–1915
874	British Guiana	,,
875	Mauritius	1914
876	Leeward Islands	1914–1915
877	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
878	Nigeria	1914
879	Cayman Islands	1914–1915
880	St. Lucia	,,
881	East Africa Protectorate	,,
882	Imperial Institute	1914
883	Nyasaland	1914–1915
884	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	,,
885	Weihaiwei	1915
886	Zanzibar	,,
887	Fiji	,,
888	Sierra Leone	,,
889	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
890	Gambia	,,
891	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
892	Hong Kong	,,
893	Ashanti	,,
894	Gold Coast	,,
895	Malta	1915–1916
896	St. Helena	1915
897	Seychelles	,,
898	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1915–1916
899	Gibraltar	1915
900	Bahamas	1915–1916
901	Swaziland	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 944.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1916-17.

(For Report for 1915-16 see No. 902.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

December, 1917.

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A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 867: [Cd. 7622-58].

No. 944.

SOMALILAND.

(For Report for 1915–16 see No. 902.)

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Commissioner's Camp, Sheikh,

23rd October, 1917.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, the Annual Report on the Somaliland Blue Book for the year 1916–17, which has been prepared by Mr. D. J. Jardine, the Secretary to the Administration

I have, &c.,

G. F. ARCHER.

The Right Honourable
Walter H. Long, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

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REPORT ON THE SOMALILAND BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1916–17.

I.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

1. The revenue of the Protectorate from all sources for the year under review amounted to £40,400, or £11,130 more than the revenue for 1915–16, and £760 more than the original estimate of the year's receipts.

2. The following figures show the revenue collected during the last three years :—

Year.	£	Increase. £	Decrease. £
1914–15	23,831	—	5,537
1915–16	29,270	5,439	—
1916–17	40,400	11,130	—

3. The Customs, as is usual, proved the main source of revenue; and during 1916–17 the collections under this head amounted to £36,878 as against £26,021 in 1915–16. This increase may be attributed partly to the demand in Aden for Somali sheep and cattle, and partly to an increase in the customs valuation tariff, which was brought into force on the 1st February, 1917.

4. The other sources of revenue, apart from Customs, were Port and Harbour Dues, £130; Licences and Internal Revenue, £778; Court Fees, £1,264; Post Office, £598; Telegraphs, £444; and Miscellaneous, £308.

5. The Parliamentary Grant-in-aid was £85,000, as against £89,000 in the previous year.

Expenditure.

6. The total expenditure for the year amounted to £125,624, an increase of £1,157, as compared with the figures for the previous year.

7. The following table sets forth the actual expenditure for the last three years :—

Year.	£	Increase. £
1914–15	113,283	44,637
1915–16	124,467	11,184
1916–17	125,624	1,157

8. The large increase in expenditure in the years 1915–17 is attributable to the augmentation of the military forces in the Protectorate. To meet expenditure on this service £81,692 was required during the year under review, while the expenditure on all the other services of Government including Staff, Pensions, Administration, Medical, Police, Prisons, Public Works, Post Office, Telegraphs, etc., amounted to £43,932.

Financial Position on the 31st March, 1917.

9. The excess of Assets over Liabilities on the 31st March, 1917, was £9,434, as against £9,658 at the close of the previous financial year.

Currency and Banking.

10. The monetary unit in the Protectorate is the Indian rupee. The following Indian coins are also in circulation:—one pie, half pice, pice, ½ anna, 1, 2, 4 and 8 annas. The British sovereign is accepted in the coast towns, the rate of exchange being Rs.15 to the sovereign. Bank of England and Government of India notes also circulate, being payable on demand without discount.

11. The estimated value of currency in circulation at the close of the year was: British sovereigns Rs.15,000, Indian coin Rs.1,000,000, and notes Rs.30,000.

12. There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a private firm, Messrs Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, accepts deposits from private individuals and cashes cheques drawn against them.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

13. The value of the Protectorate trade for the year 1916–17 was £522,030 as against £402,377 in the previous year. The following comparative table gives the value of the imports and exports, excluding specie, for each of the last three years:—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1914–15 ..	3,043,250	2,643,395	5,686,645
1915–16 ..	3,176,710	2,858,947	6,035,657
1916–17 ..	4,529,832	3,300,621	7,830,453

Imports.

14. The Import trade excluding specie to the value of Rs.300,776, amounted to Rs.4,529,832. The principal headings showing increases were:—Country grey sheetings, Rs.654,271; Europe white long cloth, Rs.176,906; dates, Rs.238,178; jowaree, Rs.294,662; and rice, Rs.199,285. The majority of the other headings also show small increases, which may be attributed to the money in circulation among the Somalis, consequent upon the purchase of transport camels by the Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Exports.

15. The value of the exports for the year under review, excluding specie to the value of Rs.323,969, was Rs.3,300,621.

16. Almost all the headings show some increase, of which the most notable are camels Rs.251,660. There were 37,000 less skins exported than in the previous year; but, owing to the enhanced value of those which were exported, consequent upon the world demand, the customs revenue from this source shows an increase of Rs.65,590.

Shipping.

17. The following is a comparative table of the shipping cleared and entered in the Protectorate Ports during the past two years :—

	1915–16.		1916–17.	
	Nos.	Tons.	Nos.	Tons.
Entered ..	1,645	71,294	1,691	51,183
Cleared ..	1,651	71,227	1,700	51,997

III.—EDUCATION.

18. There are Government native schools in the three coast towns. The average daily attendance during the year was 82 at Berbera ; 22 at Bulhar ; and 39 at Zeyla. The pupils are the children of the local Indian and Arab traders, and a few Somalis. The Koran, Arabic and the most elementary arithmetic are the only subjects taught.

19. Educated Somalis use the Arabic language and the Arabic characters in their written communications ; and the reading and writing of Arabic, therefore, constitutes literacy among the natives. The Somali language has only been reduced to writing by grammarians, who have used Roman, Arabic or Urdu characters for the purpose. The Bible Society also published in 1915 in Roman characters an edition of the Gospel of S. Mark in Somali.

IV.—MEDICAL.

20. The general public health during the year under review was satisfactory, although the continued rise in the price of foodstuffs affected the poor. Apart from Government employees, only a small portion of the native population comes under the care of the Medical Department. The tribespeople are seldom brought to a hospital until they are *in extremis* and beyond medical help ; and the hospital sick returns give little or no indication of the general health of the native population.

21. The prevalent diseases are tuberculosis, venereal diseases, chronic rheumatism, bronchitis, conjunctivitis, and ulcers. A large number of fevers of uncertain origin are shown in this year's returns ; and in many cases it is difficult for the Medical Officers to diagnose cases in which natives come to a dispensary with fever, take a dose of medicine, and do not return. Relapsing fever is very rife in the Hargeisa district where the *Ornithodorus moubata* tick is found. The natives themselves believe that the Congo floor maggot is the causative agent. The fever has been successfully treated with atoxyl, but it is unfortunate that salvarsan or some similar preparation cannot be obtained at present.

22. The Berbera hospital consists of 43 beds. But there are generally considerably more sick people in the hospital than there are beds, as the Somali patient generally prefers to lie on the ground in

the compound. During the year 506 patients were admitted to the hospital: total number of deaths, 26; and daily average in hospital, 45. In the dispensary 14,267 out-patients were treated, the daily average being 48. The number of patients treated in the other hospitals of the Protectorate were Bulhar, 7,563; Zeyla, 11,627; Burao, 2,550; and Hargeisa, 852; total deaths, 8.

23. Camp hospitals constructed of mat huts, erected on wooden framework, are in use in each of the coast towns as isolation hospitals.

V.—METEOROLOGY.

24. The total rainfall in Berbera in 1916 was 2·89 inches: in the interior it was considerably more than this, but up to the present it has not been found practicable to keep any records. The highest shade temperature recorded at Berbera was 111° Fahr. on the 12th, 20th, 22nd, and 23rd June, while the lowest was 62° Fahr. on the 7th, 8th, and 9th February. The solar maximum was 179° on the 29th August.

VI.—POPULATION.

25. No reliable information is available as to the Somali population in the country, but 300,000 is generally quoted as an approximate figure. It is estimated that the Berbera population varies from 10,000 in the hot weather, viz., May to September, to 25,000 or 30,000 in the trading season. Bulhar has a somewhat smaller floating population, while Zeyla varies from 5,000 in the hot weather to 7,000 during the cooler season. A census of the alien community, excluding Europeans, was taken in the three coast towns, 1911, the return then being as follows:—Indian, 741; Arabs, 1,857; and mixed population, 798.

VII.—POLICE AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

26. The distribution of the Foot and Mounted Police on the 31st March, 1917, was 1 native officer and 135 non-commissioned officers and men at Berbera and Bulhar; 53 non-commissioned officers and men at Zeyla; 30 at Hargeisa; 9 at Burao.

27. During the year, there were 350 cases reported and 496 summary convictions in the subordinate courts at Berbera and Bulhar. Of the 350 cases reported, 63 appear under the head of "other offences," which includes breaches of local and other minor offences, leaving 287 cases under the heading crime.

28. The most frequent forms of serious crime are robbery and theft, for which 133 convictions were obtained. Cases of murder and manslaughter in the interior are dealt with under tribal custom.

29. The convictions in the District Courts for the last three years were as follows :—

1914–1915	539
1915–1916	449
1916–1917	496

30. The Berbera and Bulhar Courts committed 325 prisoners during the year. The average of convicted prisoners in the Berbera and Bulhar Gaol was 75, as against 70 in 1915–1916 ; and there were two deaths amongst the prisoners. The total cost of the Protectorate Prisons for the year amounted to £1,121 4*s.* 4*d.*

VIII.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

31. In conclusion, the year under review was one of well-maintained progress in almost every direction. The continued loyalty of the friendly Somalis, despite disturbing outside influences, the cessation of inter-tribal fighting within our sphere, the security of the caravan routes, the diminution of crimes of violence in the interior, the favourable trade conditions, and the resulting increase in Government revenue, are all sure indications of a more settled form of administration.

D. J. JARDINE,

Secretary to the Administration.

The Secretariat,

Sheikh,

22nd October, 1917.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
908	Bermuda	1915
909	Jamaica	1915–1916
910	British Guiana	1915
911	Basutoland	1915–1916
912	Barbados	,,
913	Leeward Islands	,,
914	Uganda	,,
915	British Honduras	1915
916	Mauritius	,,
917	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
918	St. Lucia	1915–1916
919	Nyasaland	,,
920	Nigeria	1915
921	East Africa Protectorate	1915–1916
922	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	,,
923	Hong Kong	1916
924	Weihaiwei	,,
925	Zanzibar	,,
926	Fiji	,,
927	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
928	Cayman Islands	1915–1916
929	Seychelles	1916
930	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
931	Gibraltar	,,
932	Bahamas	1916–1917
933	St. Helena	1916
934	Ceylon	,,
935	Malta	1916–1917
936	Gambia	1916
937	British Guiana	,,
938	Falkland Islands	,,
939	Sierra Leone	,,
940	Straits Settlements	,,
941	Cyprus	1916–1917
942	Grenada	,,
943	Jamaica	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-Percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1002.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1917-18.

(For Report for 1916-17 see No. 944.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1919.

LONDON:
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No. 1002.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT ON THE SOMALILAND BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1917–18.*

I.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

1. The revenue of the Protectorate from all sources for the year under review amounted to £42,000, or £1,600 more than the revenue for 1916-1917, but £4,690 less than the original estimate of the year's receipts. The revenue receipts for the four previous years were as follows: 1913–14, £29,368; 1914–15, £23,831; 1915–16, £29,270; 1916–17, £40,400.

2. The Customs, as is usual, proved the main source of revenue; and during 1917–18 the collections under this head amounted to £37,982, as compared with £36,878 in 1916–17. This increase must be attributed partly to a revised valuation tariff, which was brought into force on the 1st February, 1917, and partly to a general rise in prices, trade having been very slack throughout the year.

3. The other sources of revenue were Port and Harbour Dues, £124; Licences, Excise, etc., £1,452; Fees of Court, £1,179; Posts and Telegraphs, £1,081; and Miscellaneous Receipts, £179.

4. As in 1916–17, the Parliamentary Grant-in-Aid was £85,000.

Expenditure.

5. The total expenditure for the year amounted to £115,854, a decrease of £9,770, chiefly due to savings and economies effected in the Military department. The expenditure for the four previous years was as follows: 1913–14, £68,646; 1914–15, £113,283; 1915–16, £124,467; 1916–17, £125,624.

6. The large increase in expenditure in the years 1914–1918 is attributable to the necessary augmentation of the Protectorate troops to meet the special military situation existing in Somaliland. The Grant-in-Aid is required primarily to meet this special military expenditure, the local revenue very nearly sufficing to defray all the other services of Government.

* A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 867: [Cd. 7622–58].

Financial Position on the 31st March, 1918.

7. The excess of Assets over Liabilities on the 31st March, 1918, was £20,580 as against £9,434 at the close of the previous financial year. The Protectorate was transferred from the charge of the Foreign Office to that of the Colonial Office on the 1st April, 1905, and the financial transactions for the years 1905–18, excluding the cost of special military expenditure, may be summarised as follows :—

Assets on 1st April, 1905	—	—	£92,155
Total Expenditure, 1905–1918	—	£1,449,975	—
Total Revenue, 1905–18	£426,400	—	—
Total Grants-in-Aid 1905–18	952,000	—	—
Total Revenue, 1905–18	—	1,378,400	—
Excess Expenditure over Revenue	—	—	£71,575
		Balance	20,580

Currency and Banking.

8. The monetary unit in the Protectorate is the Indian rupee. The following Indian coins are also in circulation :—One pie, half pice, pice, ½ anna, 1, 2, 4, and 8 annas. The British sovereign is accepted in the coast towns, the rate of exchange being Rs.15 to the sovereign. Bank of England and Government of India notes also circulate, being payable on demand without discount. The estimated value of currency in circulation at the close of the year was : British sovereigns Rs.15,000, Indian coin Rs.1,000,000, and notes Rs.100,000.

9. There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a private firm, Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, accepts deposits from private individuals and cashes cheques drawn against them.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

10. The value of the Protectorate trade for the year 1917–18 was £489,191, as against £522,030 in the previous year. The following comparative table shows the value of the imports and exports, excluding specie, for each of the last three years :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1915–16 ..	3,176,710	2,858,947	6,035,657
1916–17 ..	4,529,832	3,300,599	7,830,431
1917–18 ..	4,240,731	3,097,141	7,337,872

Imports.

11. The import trade which, excluding specie to the value of Rs.326,482, amounted to Rs.4,240,731, was distributed amongst the three Protectorate ports in the following proportions :—Berbera, Rs.2,546,962 ; Bulhar, Rs.778,179 ; and Zeyla, Rs.915,590.

(C585) Wt. 1/155. 1000-90. 10,19. B.&F.,Ltd. G. 11/2.

12. Owing to war conditions, shortage of freight, and restrictions on exportations from the United Kingdom, India, and Aden, the quantities of imported goods fell off considerably as compared with the previous years ; but the value of the goods was so greatly enhanced that the Customs revenue reached the relatively high figure of £37,982. The following figures in respect of four principal imports illustrate the rise in the value of imported goods since 1914 and also the extent to which the volume of trade has been adversely affected by war conditions. In 1913–14, 4,886,370 yards of American grey sheeting, valued at £59,949, were imported ; in 1917–18, 296,335 yards only, valued at £8,488. In 1913–14, 63,794 cwts. of dates, valued at £20,534, were imported ; in 1917–18, 23,497 cwts., valued at £14,364. In 1913–14, 141,074 cwts. of rice, valued at £59,746 were imported : in 1917–18, 91,972 cwts. valued at £69,306. Again, in 1913–14, 25,630 cwts. of sugar, valued at £16,460, were imported : in 1917–18, 17,774 cwts. valued at £27,445.

Exports.

13. The value of the exports for the year under review, including specie to the value of Rs.494,521, was Rs.3,591,662, of which the Berbera exports amounted to Rs.1,196,113 ; Bulhar, to Rs.821,647 ; and Zeyla, to Rs.1,079,381.

14. The detailed export statistics reveal, as in the case of the imports, a reduction in the quantity of live stock and goods exported but an increase in their value. The falling off in the quantity of livestock exported to Aden is primarily attributable to lack of freight. Less *ghee*, or clarified butter, was exported ; and this was due to an embargo imposed by Government for political reasons on caravans proceeding to the coast from the Ogaden country. The reduced exportation of hides and skins, gums, and resin was due to general trade depression.

Shipping.

15. The following is a comparative table of the shipping cleared and entered in the Protectorate ports during the past two years :—

	1916–17.		1917–18.	
	Nos.	Tons.	Nos.	Tons.
Entered ..	1,691	51,183	1,654	50,364
Cleared ..	1,700	51,997	1,646	50,333

III.—EDUCATION.

16. There are Government native schools in the three coast towns. The average daily attendance during the year was 96 at Berbera ; 21 at Bulhar ; and 34 at Zeyla. The pupils are the children of the local Indian and Arab traders, and a few Somalis. The Koran, Arabic, and the most elementary arithmetic are the only subjects taught.

17. Educated Somalis use the Arabic language and the Arabic characters in their written communications ; and the reading and writing of Arabic, therefore, constitutes literacy among the natives. The Somali language has only been reduced to writing by grammarians, who have used Roman, Arabic or Urdu characters for the purpose. The Bible Society also published in 1915, in Roman characters, an edition of the Gospel of S. Mark in Ogaden Somali.

IV.—MEDICAL.

18. The general public health during the year under review was satisfactory, and the amount of sickness appears to have been much the same as in the previous year, the admissions to hospital being 1,039, as compared with 1,053.

19. A wave of malignant malaria seemed to pass over the whole Protectorate from March to June, 1917. The cases seen were all of the subtertian type, with cerebral and sometimes intestinal symptoms. As stated in the last annual report, very few of the tribespeople have recourse to the Government hospitals until they are *in extremis*, believing that recovery or death is determined by fate alone; and, consequently, this outbreak of malaria resulted in many deaths among the native population, despite the efforts of the medical staff who sought out the sick in the town and treated them with quinine.

20. Relapsing fever was more prevalent than usual in the Hargeisa district, where the *ornithodorus moubata* tick is found. The natives believe the Congo floor maggot (*i.e.*, the larva of the *auchmeromyia luteola* which is common at Hargeisa but is seen nowhere else in the Protectorate) is the causative agent; and this seems quite possible, although the medical authorities have not yet been able to satisfy themselves that this maggot can transmit the spirillum. An intramuscular injection of salvarsan or an intravenous injection of galyl seemed to be efficacious in all cases so treated and to prevent a further relapse.

21. The prevalent diseases are tuberculosis, venereal diseases, chronic rheumatism, bronchitis, conjunctivitis, and ulcers. Scurvy is very much on the decrease, but in 1917 there was an outbreak of this disease among a detachment of Indian troops at Las Khorai, one death resulting. In Somaliland it is found that milk, especially camel's milk, is a good antiscorbutic, but lime-juice has not proved of much service.

22. From April to July, 1917, plague was prevalent in Aden; but, thanks to the preventive measures taken by the Medical Department, the disease did not spread to Somaliland.

23. Many useful sanitary measures have been taken in Berbera; and mosquitoes, which usually abound from November to June, were scarcely noticeable during the year under review.

24. In 1917, 526 patients were admitted to the Berbera Hospital, and 5,927 out-patients were treated in the dispensary. The number of patients treated in the other hospitals of the Protectorate were Bulhar, 2,647; Zeyla, 3,580; Burao, 2,095; Hargeisa, 2,892; Las Dureh, 1,417; and Las Khorai, 734. The total number of deaths reported from all Protectorate hospitals was 59.

25. Camp hospitals consisting of mat huts, erected on wooden framework, are in use in each of the coast towns as Isolation Hospitals.

V.—METEOROLOGY.

26. The total rainfall in Berbera in 1917 was 0·55 inches: in the interior it was considerably more than this, but up to the present it has not been found practicable to keep any records. The highest shade

temperature recorded at Berbera was 113° Fahr. in August, while the lowest was 63° Fahr. in November. The mean solar maximum was 160°.

27. Away from the sea coast the climate is chiefly remarkable for its very dry character, and in the interior it is comparatively healthy throughout the year; but in the coast belt during the *kharif* season, *i.e.*, from the 1st June to mid-September, the climatic conditions are exceedingly trying particularly for Europeans, the effect on the nervous system being very marked. During this period terrific gales of hot sand-laden winds are prevalent and the heat is intense, the thermometer registering 105° to 115° Fahr. in the shade and seldom falling below 100° at night. During the months November, December, January, and February, the climatic conditions at the coast greatly improve.

VI.—POPULATION.

28. No reliable information is available as to the Somali population in the country, but 300,000 is generally quoted as an approximate figure. It is estimated that the Berbera population varies from 10,000 in the hot weather, viz., May to September, to 25,000 or 30,000 in the trading season. Bulhar has a somewhat smaller floating population, while Zeyla varies from 5,000 in the hot weather to 7,000 during the cooler season. A census of the alien community, excluding Europeans, was taken in the three coast towns in 1911, the return then being as follows:—Indian, 741; Arabs, 1,857; and mixed population, 798.

VII.—POLICE AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

29. The distribution of the Foot and Mounted Police on the 31st March, 1918, was 1 native officer, and 138 non-commissioned officers and men at Berbera and Bulhar; 53 non-commissioned officers and men at Zeyla; 30 at Hargeisa; 16 at Burao; and 11 at Sheikh.

30. During the year there were 323 cases reported and 417 summary convictions in the subordinate courts at Berbera and Bulhar. Of the 323 cases reported, 77 appear under the head of "other offences," which includes breaches of local regulations and other minor offences, leaving 246 cases under the heading of crime.

31. The most frequent forms of serious crime are robbery and theft, for which 120 convictions were obtained. Cases of murder and manslaughter in the interior are dealt with under tribal custom.

32. The Berbera and Bulhar Courts committed 355 prisoners during the year. The average of convicted prisoners in the Berbera and Bulhar Gaol was 76, as against 75 in 1916–17; and there were three deaths amongst the prisoners. The total cost of the Protectorate Prisons for the year amounted to £973.

VIII. POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

33. The Postal and Telegraphs Departments were amalgamated under one Director on the 1st April, 1917.

34. A Post Office was opened at military headquarters at Burao during the year. Berbera and Sheikh are connected by telegraph by a land line ; and there are wireless telegraph stations at Berbera, Bulhar, Burao, and at Las Dureh, where a wireless set of the wagon type was erected at the end of the year.

IX.—INDUSTRIES.

35. With a view to gauging the future commercial possibilities of the salt industry at Zeyla, the Administration in February, 1918, entered into a contract with an Indian firm of merchants whereby the latter was given a monopoly of the export of salt in return for an undertaking that it would purchase all the salt conforming to a certain standard produced by the native saltworkers. The Zeyla salt pans, which extend for some 15 miles along the sea shore, were first established by the Egyptian Government but, since its withdrawal from the country in 1884, they have been worked by the Aysa and Gadabursi tribes. There was keen competition for the concession, and the sum which the concessionaire eventually contracted to pay to the workers for the salt was as high as Rs.2 per cwt., representing a price 100% in excess of the market rate at the time. Zeyla salt is superior in quality to that produced at Aden and Jibouti ; and it is estimated that the export could be increased at least four-fold when transport and freight difficulties can be overcome. At present the adjacent territory of Abyssinia is the principal market.

X.—MILITARY.

36. During the year there was no change in the general military situation in the Protectorate. The Mullah carried out various small raids on the tribes in the North-East of the Protectorate ; and our mounted troops have on several occasions moved out in pursuit. Amongst other engagements with the Dervishes may be mentioned that at the Endow Pass, in October, when the Camel Corps, after a forced march of 135 miles, which was covered in 65 hours over very difficult and unknown country, severely punished a large Dervish raiding party.

XI.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

37. The year under review was one of prosperity for the Somali in so far as there was a greater demand at a high price for his products. There is reason to believe that with a more frequent and regular steamship service the export of livestock might be increased to 150,000 head yearly. The stock intended for export is driven down to the coast towns from considerable distances ; and if, on arrival at the coast, export within two or three days is not possible, the owner has

no choice but to drive his animals back into the interior in search of grazing, which is non-existent within 10 miles of the coast line.

38. There has also been a considerable influx of money into the country as the result of the purchase in the Protectorate of some 9,000 transport camels. The price paid for the Somali camel is £6 a head. The profits accruing to the Somali as the result of the increased demand for his livestock and transport camels have been more than counterbalanced by the high price of the necessaries of life.

39. Early in 1918, the country suffered from an exceptional drought: and, owing to the shortage of foodstuffs, many tribes, which had hitherto maintained their destitute fellow tribesmen, found themselves no longer in a position to do so. There was consequently an influx of destitutes into Berbera ; and in February it was found necessary to give daily relief to some 960 adults and 250 children.

40. In conclusion, the year under review was one of well-maintained progress. Despite disturbing outside influences, and the prevailing scarcity of food and clothing, the Somali has remained loyal and contented ; and the cessation of inter-tribal fighting within our sphere, the security of the main caravan routes, and the diminution of crimes of violence bear witness to the closer control which the Administration has found it possible to exercise.

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80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey 1908–9
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta Percha
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SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1918-19.

(For Report for 1917–18 see No. 1002.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

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No. 1021.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT ON THE SOMALILAND BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1918–19.*

I.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

1. The revenue of the Protectorate from all sources for the year under review amounted to £54,498, or £12,498 more than the revenue for 1917–18 and £7,808 more than the original estimate of the year's receipts.

2. The following figures show the local revenue collected during the last three years :—

Year.	£	Increase £
1916–17	40,400	11,130
1917–18	42,000	1,600
1918–19	54,498	12,498

3. The Customs receipts, as usual, proved the main source of revenue, amounting to £46,355, as compared with £37,982 in 1917–18. This very substantial increase may be attributed mainly to the great rise in all prices and partly to the imposition of the additional Customs duties mentioned in paragraph 5 (D) and (E) *infra*.

4. The other sources of revenue were Port and Harbour dues, £104 ; Licences, Excise, etc., £3,726 ; Fees of Court, £2,368 ; Posts and Telegraphs, £1,638 ; Miscellaneous Receipts, £236 ; and Unclaimed Deposits, £68.

5. In the course of the year the following measures were taken with a view to increasing the local revenue to meet the increasing expenditure :—

(A) A toll of As.1 was levied in respect of every camel and of As.2 in respect of every donkey entering the coast towns in a trading caravan.

(B) Court Fees were imposed in all political cases, *i.e.*, cases relating to inter-tribal disputes. Hitherto fees have been charged in civil and criminal cases only.

* A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 867 : [Cd. 7622–58].

(C) A system of traders' licences was introduced. A wholesale trader pays Rs.100 per annum, or a retail trader Re.1 per mensem, for a licence without which he is not entitled to trade within the Protectorate.

(D) The 10 per cent. *ad valorem* Customs duty leviable at Berbera and Bulhar was extended to Zeyla.

(E) Frontier Customs stations were opened with a view to levying duty upon all livestock, salt, and local produce exported from the Protectorate by land and upon all grain imported into the Protectorate by land for local consumption.

6. The Parliamentary Grant-in-Aid was £83,000, as compared with £85,000 in the previous two years.

Expenditure.

7. The total expenditure for the year amounted to £147,328 as against £115,853 in 1917–18.

8. The following table sets forth the actual expenditure for the last three years ;—

Year.	£	Increase £	Decrease £
1916–17	125,624	1,157	—
1917–18	115,853	—	9,771
1918–19	147,328	31,475	—

Financial Position on the 31st March, 1919.

9. The excess of Assets over Liabilities on the 31st March, 1919, was £10,750 as against £20,580 at the close of the previous year.

10. The Protectorate was transferred from the charge of the Foreign Office to that of the Colonial Office on the 1st April, 1905, and the financial transactions for the years 1905–1919, excluding the cost of special military expenditure, may be summarized as follows :—

Assets on 1st April, 1905	—	—	£92,155
Expenditure 1905–19 ..	—	£1,597,303	—
Local Revenue 1905–19	£480,898	—	
Imperial Grant-in-Aid 1905–19	£1,035,000	—	—
Total Revenue ..		£1,515,898	
Excess Expenditure over Revenue ..			£81,405
		Balance	£10,750

Currency and Banking.

11. The monetary unit in the Protectorate is the Indian rupee. The following Indian coins are also in circulation :—One pie, half pice, pice, ½ anna, 1, 2, 4, and 8 annas. Bank of England and Government of India notes also circulate and are payable on demand.

12. The estimated value of currency in circulation at the close of the year was :—Indian coins Rs.600,000 and notes Rs.220,000.

13. There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a private firm, Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, accepts deposits from private individuals and cashes cheques drawn against them. During the year correspondence passed between the Administration and the National Bank of India, Limited, regarding the establishment of a branch of the bank at Berbera ; but no definite decision was reached.

(623) Wt.32796/354. 1,250 & 90. 1.20 B.&F.,Ltd. G.11

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

14. The value of the Protectorate trade for the year 1918–19 was Rs.8,201,775 as against Rs.7,337,872 in the previous year. The following comparative table shows the value of the imports and exports, excluding specie, for each of the last three years :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1916–17 ..	4,529,832	3,300,599	7,830,431
1917–18 ..	4,240,731	3,097,141	7,337,872
1918–19 ..	4,874,205	3,327,570	8,201,775

Imports.

15. The import trade which, excluding specie to the value of Rs.326,482, amounted to Rs.4,240,731 was distributed among the three Protectorate ports in the following proportions :—

Berbera, Rs.2,986,921 ; Bulhar, Rs.730,663 ; and Zeyla Rs.1,156,621.

16. The continuance of war conditions throughout the year, shortage of freight, and restrictions on exportations from the United Kingdom, India, and Aden caused a further decline in the volume of trade; but the value of the goods imported was so greatly enhanced that the Customs revenue, so far from suffering therefrom, reached a higher figure than has been recorded for many years past.

Exports.

17. The value of the exports for the year under review, including specie to the value of Rs.276,274 amounted to Rs.3,327,570, of which the Berbera exports amounted to Rs.1,581,010 : the Bulhar to Rs.796,886 : and the Zeyla to Rs.949,674.

18. The detailed export statistics also reveal a decline in the volume of trade. Owing to the lack of freight, there was a reduction in the quantity of livestock exported, but an increase in value. For example, 11,053 fewer sheep and goats, oxen, and camels were exported than in the previous year ; but the value of the total exportation of these animals was increased by Rs.198,163. The quantity and value of gum and hides and skins exported were somewhat increased as compared with the previous year, when trade in these commodities fell to a very low ebb.

Shipping.

19. The following is a comparative table of the shipping cleared and entered in the Protectorate ports during the past two years. :—

	1917–1918.		1918–1919.	
	Nos.	Tons.	Nos.	Tons
Entered	1,654	50,364	1,845	47,582
Cleared	1,646	50,333	1,864	49,156

III.—EDUCATION.

20. There are three Government native schools : one at each of the three coast towns. The curriculum is confined to the study of Arabic and the Q'oran. The average daily attendance during the year was 72 at Berbera ; 16 at Bulhar ; and 37 at Zeyla. The pupils are generally the sons of Indian and Arab traders. A few of the more enlightened Somalis send their sons to Aden, where there are two or three good schools.

21. During the year, arrangements were made for the sons of Somali chiefs and Government servants to be sent to the Gordon College, Khartoum, for general education and to be trained as Q'adis.

IV.—MEDICAL.

22. The general public health during the year under review was not as good as in previous years, the admissions to hospital being 2,091 as against 1,039 and 1,053 in the previous two years.

23. The influenza epidemic visited Somaliland early in the mon of November. The disease was first noticed at Berbera whither it had doubtless come from Aden where it had been present for some time. From Berbera it spread very rapidly throughout the Protectorate and within a fortnight had reached all out-lying stations. The epidemic had subsided by the end of December. The disease was often complicated by pneumonia, which accounted for most of the deaths recorded. It is estimated that at least 50 per cent. of the Somali population contracted the disease and that 5 per cent. died. There were no deaths among the Europeans in the Protectorate.

24. The wave of malaria, experienced in 1917 and recorded in paragraph 19 of the last Annual Report, was not repeated during the year under review, and there was an appreciable decrease in the number of malarial cases recorded.

25. There would appear to have been an increase of relapsing fever among the natives ; and, as usual, nearly all the cases recorded occurred at Hargeisa, where the *ornithodorus moubata* tick is found. It is probable, however, that the apparent increase is due to the fact that greater attention is being paid to the disease and that the natives are beginning to realize the benefits of early treatment. Excellent results have been obtained from intra-venous injections of galyl or salvarsan. In many cases one injection effected a cure, although more chronic cases did not respond so readily. Hardly any cases occurred among the troops or police, owing to the preventive measures taken.

26. At the close of the year under review, there was an epidemic of small-pox ; but the usual preventive measures were keeping the disease well in hand. By the 31st March some 70 deaths had been recorded, mostly at Burao.

27. A few cases of mumps were recorded during the year. A very similar disease is seen among camels in Somaliland and possibly elsewhere.

28. The prevalent diseases are pulmonary tuberculosis, venereal diseases, chronic rheumatism, bronchitis, conjunctivitis, and ulcers. Scurvy occasionally occurs but is very much on the decrease.

29. The general health of Europeans was not good during the year. No less than 8 Europeans were invalided to England ; and the average number of Europeans resident was only 36.

30. In 1918, 1,086 patients were admitted to the Berbera Hospital; and 6,710 out-patients were treated in the dispensary. The number of patients treated in the other hospitals of the Protectorate were Bulhar, 2,344; Zeyla, 3,061; Hargeisa, 3,522; Las Dureh, 1,900; and Las Khorai, 928. The total number of deaths reported from all Protectorate hospitals was 221.

31. Camp hospitals consisting of mat huts, erected on wooden framework, are in use in each of the coast towns as isolation hospitals.

V.—METEOROLOGY.

32. The total rainfall in Berbera in 1918 was 1·93 inches; in the interior it was considerably more than this, but up to the present it has not been practicable to keep records except in Berbera. The highest shade temperature recorded at Berbera was 114°Fahr. in July, while the lowest was 59° in January.

33. Away from the sea coast the climate is chiefly remarkable for its very dry character, and in the interior it is comparatively healthy throughout the year; but in the coast belt during the *kharif* season, *i.e.*, from the 1st June, to mid-September, the climatic conditions are exceedingly trying, particularly for Europeans, the effect on the nervous system being very marked. During this period terrific gales of hot sand-laden winds are prevalent and the heat is intense, the thermometer registering 105° to 115° Fahr. in the shade and seldom falling below 100° at night. During the months November, December, January, and February, the climatic conditions at the coast greatly improve.

VI.—POPULATION.

34. No reliable information is available as to the Somali population in the country, but 300,000 is generally quoted as an approximate figure. It is estimated that the Berbera population varies from 10,000 in the hot weather, viz., May to September, to 25,000 or 30,000 in the trading season. Bulhar has a somewhat smaller floating population, while Zeyla varies from 5,000 in the hot weather to 7,000 during the cooler season. A census of the alien community, excluding Europeans, was taken in the three coast towns in 1911, the return then being as follows:—Indian, 741; Arabs, 1,857; and mixed population. 798.

VII.—POLICE AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

35. The distribution of the Foot and Mounted Police on the 31st March, 1919, was 1 native officer and 149 non-commissioned officers and men at Berbera and Bulhar; 53 non-commissioned officers and men at Zeyla; 16 at Burao; 30 at Hargeisa; and 11 at Sheikh.

36. During the year, there were 310 cases reported and 448 summary convictions in the subordinate courts at Berbera and Bulhar. Of the 310 cases reported, 80 appear under the head of "Other Offences," which includes breaches of local regulations and other minor offences, leaving 230 cases under the heading "Crime."

37. The most frequent forms of serious crime are robbery and theft, for which 138 convictions were obtained. Cases of murder and manslaughter in the interior are dealt with under tribal custom.

38. The Berbera and Bulhar Courts committed 352 prisoners during the year. The average number of convicted prisoners in the Berbera and Bulhar gaol was 92, as against 76 in 1917–18; and there were nine deaths among the prisoners, eight from influenza. The total cost of the Protectorate Prisons for the year amounted to £1,027.

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

39. The Protectorate Post Office during the year dealt with 190,776 letters, 1,675 post cards, 19,493 newspapers, 1,695 book packets, and 3,076 parcels. The money order transactions represented some Rs.297,787. The expenditure on the postal service was £981: and the revenue amounted to £1,054.

40. There are wireless telegraph stations at Berbera, Bulhar, Burao, Hargeisa, and Las Dureh. Sheikh and Berbera are connected by a land line.

IX.—INDUSTRIES.

41. As stated in the last annual report, a contract was made in February, 1918, with an Indian firm of merchants, whereby they were given a monopoly of the export of salt from Zeyla in return for an undertaking that they would purchase all the salt, conforming to a certain standard, produced by the native salt-workers.

This contract expired on the 31st August, 1918, and a similar agreement was then made with a French merchant of Jibouti and Aden, the purchase price being Re.1–6–0 per cwt., as against Rs.2, the previous contract price. In March, 1919, however, the new concessionaire reported that he was suffering a very grave financial loss on his contract and begged to be released therefrom. This request was granted without any penalty being inflicted.

This enterprise, though a financial failure from the point of view of two successive concessionaires, has thrown some light on the commercial possibilities of Zeyla salt; and the following conclusions may be drawn:—

(i) Zeyla salt is as good as that produced at Aden and Jibouti, but the native method of preparation is too primitive.

(ii) A suitable market is required. Owing to the shortage and high price of freight under present conditions, Zeyla salt has not proved a commercial success at Singapore, Mombasa, and other places further afield. But it is possible that, under post-war conditions, a profitable market might be found elsewhere in Africa or further east.

X.—MILITARY.

42. During the year there was no change in the general military situation in the Protectorate. The Mullah carried out various raids on the customary scale against the tribes in the north-east of the Protectorate, but with very limited success; and the mounted troops have on several occasions moved out in pursuit. The chief engagements with the Dervishes took place on the 1st and 3rd of March, 1919, at the Ok and Rajuna passes some 50 miles east of Las Dureh. As regards actual losses inflicted on the Dervishes, these engagements were the most successful fought against the Mullah's forces since the battle of Jidballi in 1904.

XI.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

43. During the year under review, trade continued to be bad owing to war conditions. The export of sheep, goats, and bullocks to Aden was even less than in the previous year, amounting to some 97,000 head only.

44. Some 794 transport camels were purchased in the Protectorate during the year for the Egyptian Expeditionary Force, making a total of some 10,000 camels purchased for this force during the War.

45. During the year 500 recruits for the King's African Rifles were enlisted in Somaliland and despatched to Mombasa. Recruits were also obtained for the Constabulary of the Northern Frontier District and the Jubaland Province of the East Africa Protectorate.

46. In April, 1918, a geological survey party, including Mr. A. Beeby-Thompson, M.B.E., and Dr. J. Ball, O.B.E., D.Sc., of the Egyptian Survey Department, visited the Protectorate.

D. J. JARDINE,
Secretary to the Administration
Somaliland Protectorate.

The Secretariat,
Berbera.
3rd November, 1919.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
988	East Africa Protectorate	1916–1917
989	Barbados	1917–1918
990	Sierra Leone.	1917
991	Straits Settlements.	,,
992	Leeward Islands	1917–1918
993	Uganda	,,
994	British Honduras	1917
995	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1917–1918
996	Nyasaland	,,
997	Basutoland..	,,
998	Gold Coast	1917
999	Weihaiwei	1918
1000	Zanzibar	,,
1001	Hong Kong	,,
1002	Somaliland..	1917–1918
1003	Cayman Islands	,,
1004	Malta	,,
1005	Seychelles	1918
1006	Fiji	,,
1007	Ceylon	,,
1008	Nigeria	1917
1009	Turks and Caicos Islands..	1918
1010	St. Helena	,,
1011	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1012	Ashanti	,,
1013	East Africa Protectorate	1917–1918
1014	British Guiana	1918
1015	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1918–1919
1016	Basutoland..	,,
1017	Falkland Islands	1918
1018	Trinidad	,,
1019	Bermuda	,,
1020	Swaziland	1917–1918

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey 1908–9
81	Southern Nigeria..	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta Percha
83	Southern Nigeria..	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria..	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria..	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial nstitute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria..	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1051

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1919-20.

(For Report for 1918–19 see No. 1021.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

December, 1920.

LONDON:
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1920.

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No. 1051.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT ON SOMALILAND FOR THE YEAR 1919-20.*

I.—INTRODUCTORY.

1. In 1870, Ismail I, Khedive of Egypt, acquired from the Porte the Somali coast from Berbera to Zeyla. In 1884, however, difficulties in the Sudan constrained the Egyptian Government to evacuate their Somali colony; and in 1885 Great Britain concluded separate treaties with six of the eight Somali tribes now living under its protection.

2. The boundaries of this Protectorate, comprising 68,000 square miles, have been settled by agreements with France, Italy, and Abyssinia; and the coast extends from Lahadu, half way between Ras Jibouti and Zeyla, to the 49th meridian E. longitude.

3. The Protectorate was first administered by the Resident at Aden as a dependency of the Government of India; but in 1898 it was transferred to the charge of the Foreign Office and subsequently, in 1905, to the Colonial Office.

II.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

4. The revenue of the Protectorate from all sources for the year under review amounted to £81,870, or £27,372 more than the revenue for 1918–1919, and £14,365 more than the original estimate of the year's receipts.

5. The following figures show the local revenue collected during the last three years:—

Year.	£	Increase £
1917–18	42,000	1,600
1918–19	54,498	12,498
1919–20	81,870	27,372

6. The Customs receipts, as usual, proved the main source of revenue, amounting to £71,446, as compared with £46,355 in 1918–19. This very substantial increase may be attributed to a partial revival of trade following the cessation of hostilities, and to the prevailing high prices.

* A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 867; [Cd. 7622–58].

7. The other sources of revenue were Port and Harbour Dues, £144 ; Licences, Excise, etc., £3,970 ; Fees of Court, £2,802 ; Posts and Telegraphs, £2,942 ; and Miscellaneous Receipts, £566.

8. The Parliamentary Grant-in-Aid was £199,000, as compared with £83,000 in the previous year.

Expenditure.

9. The total expenditure. including special military expenditure, for the year amounted to £322,989 as against £147,328 in 1918–19.

10. The following table sets forth the actual expenditure for the last three years :—

		Increase	Decrease
1917–18	£115,853	—	£9,771
1918–19	£147,328	£31,475	—
1919–20	£322,989	£175,661	—

11. The large increase in expenditure during the year under review is attributable (a) to exchange losses on conversion of sterling into rupees amounting to £82,321, (b) the cost of the operations against the Mullah, of which £50,774 was brought to account during the year, and (c) to the high prices of all stores, particularly men and animal rations for the troops and police.

Financial Position on the 31st March, 1920.

12. The excess of Liabilities over Assets at the 31st March, 1920, was £31,369, as against a surplus of Assets over Liabilities of £10,750 at the close of the previous year. This figure is arrived at as follows :—

Assets on 1st April, 1919	—	—	£10,750
Expenditure 1919–20	—	£322,989	—
Local Revenue 1919–20	£81,870	—	—
Imperial Grant-in-Aid 1919–20	£199,000	—	—
Total Revenue ..		£280,870	
Excess Expenditure over Revenue ..			£42,119
		Debit Balance	£31,369

13. The financial transactions of the Protectorate since the Colonial Office took over charge from the Foreign Office on the 1st April, 1905, may be summarized as follows :—

Assets on 1st April, 1905	—	—	£92,155
Expenditure 1905–20	—	£1,920,292	—
Local Revenue 1905–20	£562,768	—	—
Imperial Grants-in-Aid	£1,234,000	—	—
Total Revenue ..	—	£1,796,768	—
Excess expenditure over Revenue			£123,524
		Debit Balance	£31,369

Currency and Banking.

14. The monetary unit in the Protectorate is the Indian rupee. The following Indian coins are also in circulation :—One pie, half pice, pice, ½ anna, 1, 2, 4, and 8 annas. Bank of England and Government of India notes also circulate; but the circulation of the former decreased

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during the year owing to fluctuations in the rate of exchange, the average rate with London being 1*s.* 11$\frac{5}{6}$*d.* to the rupee.

15. The estimated value of currency in circulation at the close of the year was :—Indian coins Rs. 750,000 and Indian notes Rs. 250,000.

16. There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a private firm, Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, accepts deposits from private individuals and cashes cheques drawn against them.

III.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

17. The value of the Protectorate trade for the year 1919–20 was Rs.11,013,357 as against Rs.8,201,775 in the previous year. The following comparative table shows the value of the imports and exports, excluding specie, for each of the last three years :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1917–18 ..	4,240,731	3,097,141	7,337,872
1918–19 ..	4,874,205	3,327,570	8,201,775
1919–20 ..	7,548,190	3,465,167	11,013,357

Imports.

18. The import trade which, excluding specie to the value of Rs.741,521, amounted to Rs.7,548,190 was distributed among the three Protectorate ports in the following proportions :—
Berbera, Rs.5,438,654 ; Bulhar, Rs.1,009,936 ; and Zeyla, Rs.1,099,600.

19. These record figures are due primarily to the high prices prevailing. There was a considerable revival of trade due to the cessation of hostilities and improved shipping facilities ; but the volume of imports, although 64 % greater than in the previous year, has not yet altogether regained its pre-War proportions. In fact, two important commodities, sugar and tea, were imported in less quantities than in the War years. The following statistics in regard to four of the principal imports demonstrate how the volume and value of imports have been affected by the War.

American Grey Sheetings.

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
Pre-War 1913–14	4,886,370 yds.	£59,949
War 1917–18	296,335 ,,	£8,488
Post-War 1919–20	523,573 ,,	£18,561
	Dates.	
Pre-War 1913–14	63,794 cwts.	£20,534
War 1917–18	23,497 ,,	£14,364
Post-War 1919–20	69,538 ,,	£82,703
	Rice.	
Pre-War 1913–14	141,074 cwts.	£59,746
War 1917–18	91,972 ,,	£69,306
Post-War 1919–20	141,408 ,,	£170,646
	Sugar.	
Pre-War 1913–14	25,630 cwts.	£16,460
War 1917–18	17,774 ,,	£27,445
Post-War 1919–20	13,371 ,,	£28,710

Exports.

20. The total exports for the year under review, excluding specie to the value of Rs.103,053, amounted to Rs.3,465,167, of which the Berbera exports amounted to Rs.5,438,654, the Bulhar to Rs.828,425, and the Zeyla to Rs.807,733.

21. The demand for Somali sheep and goats reached its zenith in 1917–18, when 104,768 head were exported, chiefly to meet the demands of the Aden Field Force. The numbers dropped to 94,501 in 1918–19 and to 61,483 during the year under review, owing to the reduction in the Aden garrison. But the prices have ruled so high that the Customs revenue has not been affected by this decline, the value of the 104,768 head exported in 1917–18 having been £45,031 and the value of the 61,483 exported in the year under review being as much as £44,258. The statistics of the export of oxen also show a decline in numbers without any corresponding decrease in value. Somaliland hides and skins fetched high prices during the year, the value of the 1,238,821 skins exported being £134,011, whereas 1,498,365 skins exported in 1917–18 were valued at £68,195 only. It is estimated that 90% of the skins eventually find their way to the American market, where Somaliland skins (specially those from Hargeisa District) are considered of very high quality, being superior to Abyssinian or Arabian skins. This may be attributed very largely to the Somali's skill as a shepherd or goatherd, and is remarkable in view of the difficulties of water and pasture with which he has to contend. The sheep-skins are of a particularly high quality and are used for the manufacture of high grade gloves (mocha and suède) and of suède shoes. They possess the essential softness of the sheep-skin and, at the same time, the strength of the goat-skin.

Land Customs.

22. A land Customs station was established at Gabile in the autumn of 1918; and during the year under review 23,537 cwts. of Abyssinian millet were imported through the station, the Customs revenue derived therefrom being Rs.19,625.

2,662 head of livestock, valued at Rs.101,442, and 10,155 cwt. of salt were exported through the Zeyla land Customs station.

Shipping.

23. The following is a comparative table of the shipping cleared and entered in the Protectorate ports during the past two years.:—

	1918–1919.		1919–1920.	
	Nos.	Tons.	Nos.	Tons.
Entered	1,845	47,582	1,740	48,278
Cleared	1,864	49,156	1,730	48,913

IV.—LEGISLATION.

24. Only one Ordinance was enacted during the year:—

No. 3 of 1919. "The Exclusion of Former Alien Enemies Ordinance"; which prohibits citizens or subjects of any State with which His Majesty was at war during the year 1918 entering or residing in the Protectorate without a permit.

V.—EDUCATION.

25. There are three Government schools, one at each of the three coast towns. The curriculum is confined to the study of Arabic and the Q'oran. The average daily attendance during the year was 76 at Berbera; 14 at Bulhar; and 37 at Zeyla. The pupils are generally the sons of Indian and Arab traders.

26. In December, 1919, six Somali boys, the sons of notables and Government servants, were sent to the Gordon College, Khartoum, to be trained as Q'adis. They will spend a year in the Khartoum Elementary School whence they will pass on to the Elementary Training College. Excellent reports of their progress and conduct are being received; and the experiment is proving an unqualified success.

27. Educated Somalis use the Arabic language and the Arabic characters in their written communications; and the reading and writing of Arabic, therefore, constitutes literacy among the natives.

VI.—MEDICAL.

28. The total number of patients admitted to the hospitals during 1919 was 2,064, as compared with 2,421 in 1918. Both years show a considerable increase over 1917, when the total admissions amounted to 1,039 only. In 1918 the numbers were raised by an epidemic of influenza, and in the year under review there was a small-pox epidemic. The number of out-patients was 19,916, which differs little from the figures for previous years.

29. There was a further decrease in the number of malarial cases, 500 being reported as against 558 in 1918, and one death from malaria as compared with 13 in 1918.

30. Relapsing fever, on the other hand, is on the increase. The disease occurs at Hargeisa, where the *Ornithodorus moubata* tick is found. In the early stages of the disease, intravenous injections of a salvarsan preparation, such as neo-kharsivan, have proved very successful.

31. There were 132 cases of scurvy as compared with 47 in the previous year. Most of the cases were slight and occurred amongst the Indian troops owing to the difficulty of obtaining a regular supply of fresh limes and fruit from abroad. There were no deaths from this disease.

32. There were 5,260 cases of ulcer treated during the year, as compared with 4,614 cases in 1918. The majority of cases appear to be the ordinary tropical ulcer, or "Aden Ulcer" as it is sometimes called, which is very common on the Red Sea littoral.

33. Small-pox was present in epidemic form during the whole of 1919. The first recorded case came from Abyssinia to Hargeisa whence, owing to the nomadic habits of the people, the disease spread throughout the country. 662 cases were admitted to the isolation camps, where there were 296 deaths. The outbreak was not severe; but there must have been many cases and deaths in the interior which never came to the notice of the Medical Department. Some villages, indeed, where the disease was rampant, were abandoned by the inhabitants. There were 104 cases of chicken-pox, as compared with 20 cases in the previous year.

34. The influenza epidemic of 1918 did not recur in 1919. There were only 69 cases of this disease, mostly at the coast, and 4 deaths.

35. There were 199 cases of, and one death from, measles during the year, of which more than half occurred at military headquarters at Burao. In the previous year only one case had been recorded.

36. There were 59 cases of dysentery some of which were definitely amoebic and appear to have been brought by troops from East Africa.

37. Venereal diseases were still on the increase, 262 cases of syphilis and 516 cases of gonorrhoea being recorded, as against 143 and 339, respectively, in the previous year.

38. Tuberculosis, chiefly of the lungs, is also steadily increasing, 300 cases being recorded during the year.

39. The general health of Europeans was much the same as in the previous year. The average number resident was 36; and the total numbers on the sick list was 30, of whom four were invalided to England.

40. In 1919, 839 patients were admitted to the Berbera hospital; and 7,415 out-patients were treated in the dispensary. The number of patients treated in the other hospitals of the Protectorate were Bulhar, 2,527; Zeyla, 2,275; Hargeisa, 3,217; Burao, 2,608; Las Dureh, 1,639; and Las Khorai, 1,493. The total number of deaths reported from all Protectorate hospitals was 157.

VII.—METEOROLOGY.

41. The total rainfall in Berbera in 1919 was 2·31 inches, as against 1·93 inches in the previous year. In the interior the rainfall is considerably more than this, but up to the present it has not been practicable to keep records except in Berbera. The highest shade temperature recorded at Berbera in 1919 was 116°Fahr. in August, while the lowest was 63° in January.

VIII.—POLICE AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

42. The Somaliland Police Force has been reorganized and a Commandant, six British Police Officers and three British Warrant Officers appointed. The Somali rank and file have been increased from 260 to 500. There was a corresponding reduction in the Indian Contingent.

43. During the year there were 852 cases reported and 738 convictions in the subordinate courts at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla. Of the 852 cases reported, 297 appear under the head "Other Offences," which includes breaches of local regulations and other minor offences, leaving 555 cases under the heading "Crime."

44. The most frequent forms of serious crime are robbery and theft, for which 275 convictions were obtained. Cases of murder and manslaughter in the interior are dealt with under tribal custom.

45. The convictions in the District Courts for the last three years were as follows:—

1917–18	..	..	417
1918–19	..	..	448
1919-20	..	..	738

46. During the year 512 prisoners were committed to the Protectorate Gaol at Berbera. The average daily number of convicted prisoners in the Gaol was 55; and there were seven deaths among the prisoners. The total cost of the Protectorate Prisons for the year amounted to £1,513.

IX.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

47. The Protectorate Post Offices during the year dealt with 201,329 letters, 1,705 post cards, 19,552 newspapers, 2,135 book packets, and 2,464 parcels. The money order transactions represented some Rs.380,190. The expenditure on the postal service was £1,114: and the revenue amounted to £2,235.

48. There are wireless telegraph stations at Berbera, Bulhar, Burao, Hargeisa, and Las Dureh. Sheikh and Berbera are connected by a land line. The expenditure on the telegraph service was £4,298 and the revenue £707.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS.

49. There is a weekly mail service from England and India *via* Aden, the mails being carried from Aden to the Protectorate ports by Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers' steamers. The passage from Aden to Berbera usually occupies some 18 to 24 hours.

50. Hitherto, transport within the Protectorate has been by animal only; but during the year under review motorable tracks were constructed from Berbera to Lower Sheikh, and from Upper Sheikh to Burao, and Ford cars have been in regular use on these stages for the carriage of passengers and mails.

XI.—MILITARY.

51. The year was chiefly notable for the entirely successful aerial and military operations against the Mullah, Mohammed bin Abdullah Hassan, which, in the brief space of 23 days, resulted in the complete overthrow of the dervish power. These operations were undertaken in January, 1920, by the Protectorate Government, which had at its

disposal for the purpose one flight of aeroplanes (D.H. 9), Royal Air Force, a King's African Rifles Contingent (700 rifles), the Somaliland Camel Corps (700 rifles), 1st/101st Grenadiers, Indian Army (400 rifles), and His Majesty's Ships "Odin," "Clio," and "Ark Royal." The operations commenced on the 21st January with an aerial attack on the Mullah's main encampment at Medishe, and ended on the 12th February with the flight of the Mullah, his son, a brother, and four or five followers from British Territory. The rest of his following were accounted for, either being killed in action or surrendering to us. All his stock, property and belongings were captured, and his forts demolished. Our casualties were confined to three native ranks killed and eight wounded. The cost of the operations up to the 31st March was £50,774, and £34,000 was carried forward to the next year to meet estimated outstanding liabilities in connection with the expedition. The estimated cost of the operations was thus approximately £84,000 without taking into account losses on exchange.

XII.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

52. The year 1919–20 will always be remembered in Somaliland as the last of twenty-one years of dervish oppression, and it is greatly to be hoped that it will also mark the commencement of a period in which trade will prosper and the latent resources of the country will be developed, so that the local revenue may provide the funds so urgently required for education and other progressive measures essential to the general welfare of the country.

The Secretariat,
British Somaliland.
28th September, 1920.

D. J. JARDINE,
Secretary to the Administration.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
1017	Falkland Islands	1918
1018	Trinidad	,,
1019	Bermuda	,,
1020	Swaziland	1917–1918
1021	Somaliland	1918–1919
1022	Gibraltar	1918
1023	Grenada	1918–1919
1024	Jamaica	,,
1025	Cyprus	,,
1026	British Honduras	1918
1027	British Solomon Islands	1918–1919
1028	Straits Settlements	1918
1029	Gold Coast	,,
1030	Nigeria	,,
1031	Leeward Islands	1918–1919
1032	Sierra Leone	1918
1033	Bahamas	1918–1919
1034	Gambia	1918
1035	Barbados	1918–1919
1036	Mauritius	1918
1037	St. Vincent	1918–1919
1038	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	,,
1039	St. Helena	1919
1040	Weihaiwei	,,
1041	Nyasaland	1918–1919
1042	Turks and Caicos Islands	1919
1043	Grenada	,,
1044	Bermuda	,,
1045	Basutoland	1919–1920
1046	Cyprus	,,
1047	Fiji	1919
1048	Straits Settlements	,,
1049	Ceylon	,,
1050	Gibraltar	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

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No. 1100.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1920.

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SOMALILAND.

REPORT ON SOMALILAND FOR THE YEAR 1920.

I. POLITICAL AND GENERAL.

1. As a result of the overthrow of the "Mad Mullah," Mohammed Abdullah Hassan, which took place in January, 1920, as described in the Annual Report for 1919–1920, the Protectorate enjoyed a quiet and uneventful year, during which the native tribes were able to make use of extended grazing grounds which had formerly been closed to them by the menace of the Mullah.

The Mullah continued to reside with a few followers at Imi in Abyssinian territory but caused no further trouble.

2. Excellent grazing conditions, due to the rainfall, and extended grazing areas have resulted in a prosperous year for the native inhabitants.

II. FINANCIAL, 1920–1921.

Revenue.

3. The revenue for the year amounted to £58,992, which was a decrease of £22,878 under last year.

The Customs receipts, which form the main item of revenue, fell from £71,446 in 1919–1920 to £48,284. This was due to :—

(i) a slump in the skin and hide trade ;
(ii) reduction in imported foodstuffs owing both to restrictions on their export from India by the Indian Government and to excellent rains giving the natives adequate supplies of milk and meat ;
(iii) reduction of number of troops in the country owing to operations against the Mullah being at an end.

Other sources of revenue were :—

	£
Port and Harbour Dues	132
Licences, Excise, etc.	3,294
Fees of Court, etc.	3,527
Posts and Telegraphs	2,666
Miscellaneous receipts	1,087

The Parliamentary Grant-in-Aid was £210,000 in all, as compared with £199,000 in the previous year.

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Expenditure.

4. The total expenditure was £208,401, a decrease of £114,588 under last year.

The main causes of this decrease were :—

(i) Liabilities outstanding at the end of the year and deferred services carried forward amounting to £30,868.
(ii) Depreciation in the rate of exchange of the local currency of the Indian rupee, thereby increasing the purchasing power of British sterling.
(iii) Reduction of military expenditure owing to cessation of operations against the Mullah.
(iv) Reduction in strength of tribal posts in the interior.

Financial position on the 31st March, 1921.

5. The statement of Assets and Liabilities was as follows :—

	£	£
Net liabilities on 1st April, 1920 ..	31,369	
Expenditure, 1920–1921	208,401	
		239,770
Revenue, 1920–1921	58,992	
Grant-in-Aid	210,000	268,992
Surplus ..		29,222

This surplus balance is calculated at Rs.15 to £ sterling, but from April 1st, 1921, the accounts of the Protectorate are being kept at Rs.10 to the £, and on this basis a sum of £43,833 will be brought forward, from which must be deducted £30,868 in respect of liabilities and deferred services outstanding at the close of the year. A working balance of £12,965 is thus left.

Currency and Banking.

6. The monetary unit current in the Protectorate is the Indian rupee. The following Indian coins are also in circulation :— 1 pie, ½ pice, pice, ½ anna, 1, 2, 4 and 8 annas. Bank of England and Government of India notes also circulate. The average monthly rate of exchange with London was 1*s.* $10\frac{2}{4}\frac{0}{8}$*d.* to the rupee.

7. The estimated value of currency in circulation at the close of the year was :—

Indian Coins	Rs.10,00,000
Indian Notes	Rs.1,50,000

8. There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a private firm, Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, accepts deposits from private individuals and cashes cheques drawn against them.

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III. TRADE AND SHIPPING.

9. The value of the Protectorate trade at the three principal ports for the calendar year 1920 amounted to Rs.81,85,370, as follows :—

Imports	Rs.53,52,580
Exports	Rs.28,32,790

This represented a decrease of Rs.21,95,610 in imports and Rs.6,32,377 in exports under last year, 1919–1920.

10. The import trade was divided as follows :—

Berbera	Rs.39,91,475
Bulhar	Rs. 6,75,365
Zeyla	Rs. 6,85,740

the ratio of decrease being 1·38, 1·49, 1·6.

11. The principal imports were :—

	1920.	1919–1920.	Decrease.
American grey sheetings	264,317 yds.	523,573	50 per cent.
Dates	45,894 cwt.	69,538	33 ,,
Rice	72,552 ,,	141,408	49 ,,
Sugar	8,927 ,,	13,371	33 ,,
Country grey sheetings	866,007 yds.	2,405,630	65 ,,
Europe White Long cloth	671,286 ,,	706,100	5 ,,

12. The export trade was divided as follows :—

Berbera	Rs.16,16,725
Bulhar	Rs. 5,70,480
Zeyla	Rs. 6,45,585

the ratio of decrease being 3·36, 1·45, and 1·25.

13. The principal exports were :—

	1920.	1919–1920.	Increase. 1920.	Decrease.
Bullocks.. ..	1,372	1,675	—	19 per cent.
Sheep and Goats	72,802	61,483	18 per cent.	—
Skins	725,641	1,238,821	—	42 ,,
Hides .. cwt.	1,444	3,415	—	58 ,,
Ghee .. ,,	2,423	445	444 per cent.	—
Gum .. ,,	3,449	7,244	—	53 ,,

The increases are due to a steady demand in Aden for meat and to exceptional rains giving an abundant supply of grazing which increased the output of milk.

Land Customs.

14. The Customs station at Gabile on the Abyssinian frontier recorded 26,687 cwt. of millet imported from Abyssinia, being an increase of 3,150 cwt. over the previous year.

The land Customs station at Zeyla recorded 2,536 head of live stock and 9,928 cwt. of salt exported, being a decrease of 126 head and 227 cwt. respectively.

15. New Customs stations were established late in the year on the coast east of Berbera at Hais, Elaiya, and Las Khorai.

Shipping.

16. The following is a comparative table of the shipping entered and cleared in the Protectorate ports during the past two years :—

	1919–1920.		1920.	
	Nos.	Tons.	Nos.	Tons.
Entered	1,740	48,278	1,794	58,243
Cleared	1,730	48,913	1,792	58,758

IV. EDUCATION.

17. There are three Government schools in the Protectorate, at Berbera, Bulhar and Zeyla. The average attendance at each was 74, 13, and 36, which shows practically no change from last year. The pupils are children of local Indian and Arab traders, with a few Somalis. Instruction is in Arabic.

18. During the year the Chief Inspector of Schools of the Sudan Government visited the Protectorate for the purpose of advising as to the best system on which education in the Protectorate might be extended. On his report a scheme for increased educational facilities for the natives of the Protectorate has been drawn up, and this will be carried out as soon as funds can be made available for the purpose.

V. MEDICAL.

19. The total number of patients admitted to hospitals during 1920 was 1,998, or 606 less than in the previous year. The out-patients treated numbered 17,145, or 2,771 less than in the previous year. The decrease is due :—

(i) to the abatement of the small-pox epidemic ;
(ii) increased prosperity of the native population owing to a good season ; and
(iii) migration of the natives into areas distant from Government stations owing to the removal of the menace of the Mullah.

20. *General Diseases.*—Scurvy cases decreased from 132 with no deaths to 55 with 2 deaths.

Ulcer cases decreased from 5,260 to 4,654; but this probably does not represent a true decrease, as many advanced cases may be expected to be seen in the spring of 1921, when the natives begin to congregate near Government stations.

Malaria cases decreased from 500 with one death to 257 with one death. The steady decline in this disease is due greatly to fewer cases of undetermined fever being included under this diagnosis.

Most stations under medical supervision are comparatively free from mosquitos.

Relapsing fever shows a decrease from 109 cases with one death to 64 cases with four deaths, but it is probable that this does not represent a true record of the disease. Hitherto the disease has been confined to Hargeisa, but during the year an epidemic broke out in Burao. This was found to be clinically and microscopically different from the Hargeisa type, and it is interesting to note that all evidence so far available goes to point to the bed-bug being the vector.

Small-Pox.—This disease, which had been epidemic since 1918, had nearly disappeared by the end of the year. The total cases reported amounted to 394 with 58 deaths. This is probably erroneous as the report from the Warsangli area was 236 cases with only 11 deaths. The figures for the rest of the Protectorate, 158 cases with 47 deaths, probably show a truer proportionate mortality.

Chicken-pox.—74 cases with one death were reported, as against 104 cases and two deaths.

Influenza.—283 cases with two deaths were reported. The form of the disease was mild.

Measles.—63 cases with one death were reported.

Dysentery.—This disease is on the increase; 148 cases being reported as against 59.

Venereal Diseases again show an increase; gonorrhœa numbering 539 cases as against 516, and syphilis numbering 300 cases as against 262. An attempt was made in Berbera to introduce prophylactic treatment among the Police, and though this helped to reduce wastage among the Police its influence did not extend outside the force.

Tuberculosis showed a decrease of 263 cases as against 300, probably due to better nourishment of the natives owing to the good season.

21. The general health of the European officers was much as in former years, the average number resident being 45.7, while the number on the sick list was 38 ; two were invalided to England.

22. The following statistics represent the work in the various hospitals of the Protectorate.

	In-patients.	Out-patients.	Isolation.	Average daily attendance.
Berbera	752	7,146	40	83·8
Burao and Sheikh ..	385	313	59	4·2
Zeyla	140	2,490	30	27·1
Hargeisa	72	2,970	38	37·0
Las Khorai	173	1,691	236	11·8
Bulhar	43	2,536	—	16·0

23. In December a commencement was made with the building of a new hospital in Berbera.

VI. METEOROLOGY.

24. The total rainfall at Berbera during the year was 2·29 inches as against 2·31 inches in 1919. The maximum shade temperature recorded was 113° Fahr. in June, while the minimum was 62° in January and December. Records from the inland stations are still incomplete : the rainfall there is considerably heavier.

VII. POLICE AND JUDICIAL.

Police.

25. The Police establishment was a Commandant, an Assistant Commandant (who is also Director of Prisons), five District Police Officers, three British Warrant Officers, and 537 native rank and file.

In addition to their Police duties the District Police Officers also assisted in administrative work in the districts to which they were posted.

The Warrant Officers were seconded for a period of three years from British regiments. The rank and file were recruited locally.

Judicial.

26. Apart from inter-tribal affrays and tribal stock thefts in the interior, which were treated as political cases, the majority of criminal cases dealt with in the Protectorate Courts during the year were not of a serious nature.

27. Some cases of highway robbery on the caravan routes occurred during the year. These were the only serious cases and were mostly perpetrated by gangs of men, who, having lost their own live-stock, were unable to maintain themselves. This type of crime is, however, decreasing, as the natives are recovering the losses they sustained at the hands of the dervishes, and the country is getting more settled.

28. Cases of theft were confined to the towns, and were mostly of a trivial nature.

VIII. POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

Posts.

29. The following is a comparative table of postal statistics during the past two years :—

	1919-20.	1920-21.
Letters	201,329 ..	170,921
Post-cards	1,705 ..	1,424
Newspapers	19,552 ..	18,323
Book Packets	2,135 ..	2,210
Parcels	2,464 ..	1,898

30. The money order transactions amounted to Rs.2,49,688, as compared with Rs.3,80,190 of the previous year, the decrease being due to the unfavourable rates of exchange and high commissions prevailing, the former also materially affecting the sales of postal orders and postage stamps.

31. The expenditure and revenue were £1,193 and £2,058, as compared with £1,114 and £2,235, respectively, of 1919–1920.

Telegraphs.

32. Wireless stations were in operation at :—

Berbera ..	1½	kilowatt power
Burao ..	1½	,, ,,
Hargeisa ..	1½	,, ,,
Las Dureh	1½	,, ,,
Bulhar ..	½	,, ,,

Berbera station maintained communication with Aden throughout the year.

There is a land line from Berbera to Sheikh.

33. The weekly mail service from Aden has been continued throughout the year, the mails being carried in steamers belonging to Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers. The mails are distributed from Berbera throughout the Protectorate by dhow to Bulhar, Zeyla, and Las Khorai, and by runner or car, as occasion offers, to Sheikh, Burao and Hargeisa. Mails are sent overland from Hargeisa to Harrar in Abyssinia irregularly when need arises.

34. The use of motor traffic was extended during the year. Ford cars are now regularly in use from :—

Berbera to Lower Sheikh	..	40 miles
Upper Sheikh to Burao	..	39 miles
Burao to Hargeisa ..	..	107 miles
Hargeisa to Gabile ..	..	35 miles

Motorable tracks are also in course of construction from Burao to Eil Dab in the Ain Valley *via* Kirrit. The escarpment between Lower and Upper Sheikh prevents an unbroken run, causing a gap of some three miles which must be traversed on foot or horseback.

IX. MILITARY.

35. As the outcome of the successful operations against the dervishes in January and February, 1920, it has been possible considerably to reduce the military garrison of the Protectorate. During the year the temporary garrison of Indian infantry has returned to India. The Somaliland Camel Corps, which at the beginning of the year consisted of four mounted companies and a Depôt Company, has been reduced to two mounted and one dismounted companies and a Depôt Company.

36. During the year it has been possible to reduce the tribal posts, and in consequence the force of irregulars has been disbanded.

37. In June and July the Mullah and his small following, who had halted after their flight on the northern side of the Webi Shabeli in Abyssinian territory, were followed up by a tribal levy and, losing such stock and property as they had since collected from their allies of the Bagheri tribe, they fled across the Webi Shabeli to Imi in the Arussi country 125 miles further into Abyssinian territory. Here the Mullah has remained as a fugitive and completely inactive with a few remaining followers. The two sons remaining with the Mullah died of disease during the year. Of the other 16, one, an infant, has not been traced since the overthrow of the dervishes, and the remainder were all accounted for as killed or captured in the operations.

Detachments of the Camel Corps remained in occupation of the areas recovered from the dervishes in the early part of the year, and were later withdrawn to more central positions at Sheikh, Geloka, and the Ain Valley.

H. B. KITTERMASTER,
Secretary to the Administration.

The Secretariat,
British Somaliland,
5*th October*, 1921.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1063	St. Vincent..	1919
1064	Nigeria	April–December 1919
1065	Sierra Leone	1919
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	"
1068	British Guiana	1919–1920
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	1919
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	"
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1919–1920
1074	Leeward Islands	1918–1919
1075	Nyasaland	1919–1920
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	"
1078	Grenada	1920
1079	Uganda	"
1080	Fiji	1919–1920
1081	Gibraltar	1920
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1083	Bechuanaland	1919
1084	St. Helena	1920–1921
1085	Basutoland	1920
1086	Ceylon	1920–1921
1087	Barbados	1920
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1920-1921
1089	East Africa Protectorate	1919–1920
1090	Sierra Leone	"
1091	Zanzibar	1920
1092	Cayman Islands	"
1093	Cyprus	1918–1919
1094	St. Vincent	1920
1095	Bahamas	"
1096	Nyasaland	1920–1921
1097	Weihaiwei	1920
1098	Nigeria	1918–1919
1099	New Hebrides	1920
		"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by Sir C. Rodwell, K.C.M.G.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1152

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920, see No. 1100.)

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No. 1152

SOMALILAND.

REPORT ON SOMALILAND FOR THE YEAR 1921.

I. POLITICAL AND GENERAL.

1. Authentic reports were received in the course of the year of the deatn of Mohammed Abdullah Hassan, the " Mad Mullah," who had harassed the Protectorate for twenty years and had been finally overthrown in January, 1920.

He died and was buried at Imi, in Abyssinian territory, about January, 1921, and the small remnant of men who had remained with him dispersed among the neighbouring tribes.

2. In October the hinterland of Zeyla was opened up by the establishment of a Government station at Boramo, near the Abyssinian Frontier.

II. FINANCIAL, 1921–22.

Revenue.

3. The revenue for the year amounted to £80,270, which was an increase of £21,278 over last year, but £1,050 less than the estimate. The receipts from Customs, from which the major portion of the revenue is derived, were £51,494, an increase of £3,210 over last year.

Other sources of revenue were :—

	£
Port and Harbour Dues	147
Licences, Excise, etc.	3,002
Fees of Court, and Office	3,375
Posts and Telegraphs	3,082
Miscellaneous receipts	3,417

The grant from the Imperial Treasury was £100,000, in the form of a Loan-in-Aid, repayable when the finances of the Protectorate permit.

Expenditure.

4. The total expenditure for the year was £135,419, £72,982 less than last year.

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FINANCIAL POSITION ON 31ST MARCH, 1922.

5. The abstract of revenue and expenditure was as follows :—

	At Rs.15 to £1.		At Rs.10 to £1.	
	£		£	
Balance in hand on 1st April, 1921	29,222		43,833	
Revenue	80,270		120,405	
Imperial Loan	66,666(*a*)		100,000	
		£176,159		£264,238
Expenditure	135,419		203,128	
Balance in hand on 31st March, 1922	40,740		61,110(*b*)	
		£176,159		£264,238

(*a*) represents £100,000 at Rs.10 to £1 for the purpose of conversion only.

(*b*) represents £40,740 at Rs.15 to £1 for the purpose of conversion only.

As, however, it is necessary to treat the grant from the Imperial Treasury as a Loan, the excess of Liabilities over Assets on 31st March, 1922, was (£100,000 less £40,740) £59,260.

Authority was obtained to treat the unexpended balance of the Loan as available to meet deferred services which amounted to £27,961.

CURRENCY AND BANKING.

6. The monetary unit current in the Protectorate is the Indian rupee. The following Indian coins also are in circulation :— 1 pie, ½ pice, pice, ½ anna, 1, 2, 4 and 8 annas, and Government of India notes. The average rate of exchange with London was to the rupee 1*s.* $4\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{8}d.$

7. The estimated value of currency in circulation at the close of the year was :—

Indian Coins	Rs.10,00,000
Indian Notes	Rs.1,50,000

8. There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a private firm, Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, of Bombay, accepts deposits from private individuals and cashes cheques drawn against them. There are no banking laws in force.

III. TRADE AND SHIPPING.

9. The value of the Protectorate trade, excluding specie during the calendar year 1921, amounted to Rs.81,40,140 as compared with Rs.81,85,370 in 1920 as follows :—

	1920 Rs.	1921 Rs.	Increase Rs.	Decrease Rs.
Imports ..	53,52,580	51,22,740	—	2,29,840
Exports ..	28,32,790	30,17,400	1,84,610	—
Net decrease				Rs.45,230

Note.—The Customs Revenue in paragraph 8, which shows an increase, is for the financial year, while these statistics are for the calendar year.

10. The import trade, excluding specie to the amount of Rs.1,12,305, was divided as follows :—

Berbera	Rs.41,13,645	= 80·3% of total.
Bulhar	Rs. 2,41,470	= 4·72% of total.
Zeyla	Rs. 5,16,540	= 10·08% of total.
Las Khorai, Hais, Elaiya (Makhir Coast)	Rs. 2.51.085	= 4·9% of total.

The Makhir Coast Ports, of which Las Khorai is the most important, were opened in October, 1920, to serve the eastern area of the Protectorate.

11. The principal imports were :—

American Grey sheeting	yards	1,189,080
Country Grey Sheeting, Indian ..	yards	1,350,911
Country Grey sheeting, Japanese ..	yards	307,178
European Long Cloth	yards	515,052
Dates	cwt.	64,686
Rice	cwt.	67,002
Sugar	cwt.	12,561

These items represent 54 per cent. of the total imports.

12. The export trade excluding specie to the amount of Rs.17,47,485 was divided as follows :—

Berbera	Rs.19,70,505	=	65·3%
Bulhar	Rs. 3,25,965	=	10·8%
Zeyla	Rs. 4,67,205	=	15·5%
Hais, Las Khorai, Elaiya (Makhir Coast)	Rs. 2,53,725	=	8·4%

13. The principal exports were :—

Bullocks		1,655
Sheep and Goats		84,861
Skins		806,511
Hides	cwt.	418
Ghee	cwt.	4,446
Gum	cwt.	9,936

These exports represent 62 per cent. of the total exports.

The specie exported is represented almost entirely by dollars exported from Abyssinia *via* Zeyla.

Land Customs.

14. In addition to sea ports, there are two land Customs stations (at Gabile and Boramo) through which passes a small amount of trade in millet imported from Abyssinia and livestock and salt exported to Abyssinia.

Millet imported amounted to 20,565 cwt. in 1921 as compared with 26,687 in 1920, a decrease of 6,122 cwt. or 22 per cent.

Salt exported amounted to 17,837 cwt. in 1921 as compared with 9,928 cwt. in 1920, being an increase of 7,909 cwt. or 79 per cent.

Livestock amounted to 1,315 head compared to 2,536 head, a decrease of 1,221 or 51 per cent.

SHIPPING.

15. The following is a comparative table of the shipping entered and cleared in the Protectorate ports during the past two years :—

	1920.		1921	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	1,794	58,243	1,193	58,740
Cleared	1,792	58,758	1,201	60,590

IV. EDUCATION.

16. The Government schools at Bulhar and Zeyla were closed during the year.

The only Government school in the Protectorate is now that of Berbera, where there is an average attendance of 43 children.

Six boys are being educated at the Gordon College, Khartoum.

V. MEDICAL.

17. The total number of patients admitted to hospitals during the year as in-patients was 1,262 compared with 1,998 in 1920. The out-patients numbered 19,119 as compared with 17,145, an increase of 1,974.

18. GENERAL DISEASES. *Scurvy* cases recorded were 22 as compared with 55 in 1920.

Tropical ulcers recorded were 4,492 as compared with 4,654 in 1920.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

(1) *Insect borne.*

Malaria.—145 cases were reported compared to 257 in 1920. The subtertian is the commonest type identified. A steady decline in malaria can be noted year by year.

Relapsing fever.—113 cases were reported as compared with 64 in 1920. The distinct form of this fever noted in last year's report as confined to Burao, and apparently carried by the bed bug, has died out.

(2) *Infectious and Epidemic.*

Smallpox.—32 cases were recorded compared with 394 in 1920. All cases recorded were contracted outside the Protectorate.

Influenza.—82 cases only reported compared with 283 in 1920.

Dysentery.—132 cases were reported compared with 148 in 1920.

Venereal disease.—719 cases of syphilis and 406 of gonorrhœa were treated compared with 300 and 539 in 1920.

Tuberculosis.—186 cases with 21 deaths were reported compared with 263 cases with 24 deaths in 1920. The decrease in poverty among the natives due to peaceful conditions and good seasons probably accounts for the decrease in this disease.

19. The health of European officials shows a considerable improvement compared with former years. Only 14 Europeans were placed on the sick list : these cases all occurred in Berbera. This represents a percentage of 1·1 to the average number resident.

One officer was invalided.

20. The following statistics represent the work in the various hospitals in the Protectorate :—

	No. of in-patients.	Daily average in hospital.	No. of Deaths during the year.	No. of out-patients.	Average daily attendance.
Berbera	575	79·2	44	8,522	97·8
Zeyla	67	2·8	17	1,968	17·6
Burao	92	—	4	2,077	19
Sheikh	—	—	1	196	4·6
Hargeisa	474	—	11	4,799	57·7
Las Khorai	—	—	—	708	8

21. Work on the new hospital, which was commenced in Berbera in December, 1920, was stopped in 1921 for financial reasons when only one wing had been completed.

VI. METEOROLOGY.

22 The rainfall records for the year were :—

	Total rainfall, inches.	Absolute maximum temperature Fahr.	Absolute minimum temperature Fahr.	Mean maximum.	Mean minimum.
Berbera ..	1·35	115	62	101	71
Burao ..	3·85	112	49	90	63
Sheikh* ..	18·11	88	33	78	50
Hargeisa† ..	15·58	94	39	85	58·2
Gabile ..	16·8	—	—	—	—

* Months—January, February, and March not recorded.

† Months—February and March not recorded.

VII. POLICE AND JUDICIAL.

23. The Police establishment was :—

1 Commandant.
1 Assistant Commandant (who is also Director of Prisons).
5 District Police Officers.
3 British Warrant Officers.
About 500 Rank and File.

JUDICIAL.

24. All cases of inter-tribal manslaughter and all inter-tribal civil cases (which include cases of assault and looting stock) are settled according to tribal Mohammedan custom by payment of blood-money and compensation.

Twenty-seven cases of manslaughter and 450 other cases which would be regarded as criminal cases according to the Indian Penal Code were settled on these lines.

During the year " Akils' " Courts were legally instituted to deal with such cases and other minor tribal cases. An " Akils' " Court consist of five " Akils " or Government headmen who are appointed in rotation by the Governor from month to month. Their powers are restricted to cases in which the subject matter in dispute does not exceed Rs.60 or two camels or eighteen sheep. There is a right of appeal from the " Akils' " Court to the District Court.

Persons convicted under the Indian Penal Code totalled 967 in the District Courts and 9 in the Protectorate Court as against 748 and 10 in the previous year. The increase was not confined to any one particular type of crime but was generally distributed.

VIII. PRISONS.

25. The average daily number of prisoners in the Berbera Gaol during the year was 122·25.

IX. POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

26. The following is a comparative table of postal statistics during the last two years :—

	1920-21.	1921-22.
Letters	170,921 ..	167,485
Post Cards	1,424 ..	1,370
Newspapers	18,323 ..	18,988
Book Packets and Samples	2,210 ..	2,264
Parcels	1,898 ..	1,639

27. The money order transactions were as follows :—

	1920–21.	1921–22.
Issued in the Protectorate	Rs.1,05,746	Rs.51,889
Paid in the Protectorate ..	Rs.1,43,942	Rs.81,381

28. The Postal revenue and expenditure were as follows :—

	1920–21.	1921–22.
Revenue	£2,058	£2,561
Expenditure	£1,193	£1,205

TELEGRAPHS.

29. The revenue and expenditure for the Telegraphs was as follows :—

	1920-21	1921-22
Revenue	£607	£721
Expenditure	£4,307	£5,714

Wireless stations were in operation at :—

Berbera ..	1½	kilowat power
Burao ..	1½	,, ,,
Hargeisa ..	1½	,, ,,
Las Khorai	½	,, ,,

Berbera station maintained communication with Aden throughout the year.

30. The weekly mail service from Aden has been continued throughout the year by Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers' steamers. From Berbera, mails are distributed throughout the Protectorate by dhow to Bulhar and Zeyla and by runner or car to other stations.

Mails are sent overland from Hargeisa to Harar in Abyssinia irregularly as occasion arises.

ROADS.

31. There are motorable tracks :—

From Berbera to Lower Sheikh	40 miles.
,, Upper Sheikh to Burao	39 ,,
,, Burao to Hargeisa	107 ,,
,, Hargeisa to Gabile on the Abyssinian Frontier	35 ,,

X. MILITARY.

32. No military operations of any sort occurred during the year. The Camel Corps was employed on matters of internal administration only.

The Corps remained at the strength of two mounted companies, Indian Contingent, Headquarter Company and Reserve.

H. B. KITTERMASTER,
Secretary to the Administration.

The Secretariat,
British Somaliland,
1*st October*, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1117	Cyprus	1921
1118	Weihaiwei	,,
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	,,
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920–1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	,,
1125	Zanzibar	,,
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1127	Gibraltar	,,
1128	St. Vincent	,,
1129	St. Helena	,,
1130	Fiji	,,
1131	Basutoland	1921–1922
1132	Bermuda	1921
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921–1922
1134	Barbados	,,
1135	Trinidad	1921
1136	British Honduras	,,
1137	Ceylon	,,
1138	Swaziland	,,
1139	Hongkong	,,
1140	Straits Settlements	,,
1141	St. Lucia	,,
1142	Ashanti	,,
1143	Jamaica	,,
1144	Falkland Islands	1920
1145	Bahamas	1921–1922
1146	Seychelles	1921
1147	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
1148	British Solomon Islands Protectorate	1921–1922
1149	Mauritius	1921
1150	Sierra Leone	,,
1151	Uganda	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the Northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1193

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1922.

(For Report for 1921, see No. 1152.)

LONDON:
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No. 1193

SOMALILAND.

REPORT ON SOMALILAND FOR THE YEAR 1922.

I. POLITICAL AND GENERAL.

1. Sir G. F. Archer, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Protectorate, was transferred to Uganda, and Colonel G. H. Summers, C.M.G., was appointed Governor in his place.

II. FINANCE, 1922–23.

Revenue.

2. The revenue for the year amounted to £82,316, an increase of £2,046 over the year 1921–1922. The principal sources of revenue were :—

Customs : £51,740, an increase of £246 over the previous year.
Port and Harbour dues : £173, an increase of £26 over the previous year.
Fees of Court and Office : £10,266, an increase of £6,891 over the previous year.
Miscellaneous Receipts : £10,007, an increase of £6,490 over the previous year.
Licences, Excise, &c. : £2,954, a decrease of £48 under the previous year.
Posts and Telegraphs : £1,220, a decrease of £1,862 under the previous year.

The notable increase collected under Fees of Court and Office was the result of a new system of " Zariba " fees or octroi duties.

The decrease in revenue for Posts and Telegraphs was due to the demands of philatelists being satisfied. The increase under Miscellaneous Receipts was due to adjustments of various kinds. Revenue also benefited by the exchange rate between sterling and the rupee to the extent of £5,936.

The Grant-in-Aid from the Imperial Treasury was £75,000 in the form of a Loan repayable when the finances of the Protectorate should permit. The grant for the year 1921–22 on the same terms was £100,000. The public debt of the Protectorate is therefore £175,000. A special free grant of £82,862 was also made to meet the claim referred to in paragraph 3 from the Air Ministry.

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EXPENDITURE.

3. The total expenditure for the year was £255,346, £119,927 in excess of the previous year. Of this excess, £112,135 was due mainly to the settlement of claims outstanding against the Protectorate from the War Office, Air Ministry and Uganda Protectorate for expenditure incurred during the operations against the Mullah in 1919–1920 and in a smaller degree to special military activities which had taken place during a period of native unrest in the year under review.

FINANCIAL POSITION ON 31ST MARCH, 1923.

4. The abstract of revenue and expenditure was as follows :—

	£	£
Balance in hand 1st April, 1922	40,740	
Revenue	82,316	
Imperial Loan	75,000	
Imperial Grant	82,863	
		280,919
Expenditure	255,346	
Balance in hand	25,573	
		280,919

This balance was carried forward as a credit balance for the following year.

CURRENCY AND BANKING.

5. The monetary unit current in the Protectorate is the Indian rupee.

The following Indian coins also are in circulation :—1 pie, ½ pice, pice, ½ anna, 1, 2, 4, and 8 annas, and Government of India notes.

The average rate of exchange with London was to the rupee 1*s.* $3\frac{3}{4}\frac{5}{8}d.$

6. The estimated value of currency in circulation at the close of the year was :—

Indian coin	Rs.9,00,000
Indian notes	Rs.3,00,000

7. There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a private firm, Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, of Bombay, accept deposits from private individuals and cash cheques drawn against th m. There are no banking laws in force.

III. *TRADE AND SHIPPING.

8. The value of the sea-borne Protectorate trade, excluding specie, during the calendar year 1922 amounted to £581,990 (Rs.87,29,850) as compared with £542,676 (Rs.81,40,140) in 1921 as follows :—

	1921	1922
Imports.. ..	Rs.51,22,740 ..	Rs.56,38,200
Exports ..	Rs.30,17,400 ..	Rs.30,91,650
	Rs.81,40,140 ..	Rs.87,29,850

* The Statistics of Customs Revenue given in Section II., Finance, are for the financial year 1922–23 whereas these statistics are for the calendar year 1922.

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IMPORTS.

9. The import trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.50,995, was distributed in the following proportions amongst the Protectorate ports :—

Port.	Amount. Rs.	Percentage in 1922.	Percentage in 1921.
Berbera	39,51,504	70·1	80·3
Bulhar	4,25,820	7·55	4·72
Zeyla	10,63,725	18·86	10·08
Makhir Coast ports ..	1,97,151	3·49	4·9

10. The following were the principal articles of import, representing 79 per cent. of the total trade, as compared with 54 per cent. in the preceding year.

Article.	Unit.	1922.
American grey sheeting	yards	2,260,506
Country (Indian) sheeting ..	,,	4,500
Japanese sheeting	,,	197,968
Europe white long cloth	,,	622,949
Dates	cwt.	54,234
Rice	,,	94,820
Sugar	,,	18,655

EXPORTS.

11. The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.17,75,025, amounted to Rs.30,91,650, and was derived from the following sources :—

Port.	Amount. Rs.	Percentage in 1922.	Percentage in 1921.
Berbera ..	17,73,461	57·37	65·3
Bulhar	3,97,687	12·87	10·8
Zeyla	8,04,506	26	15·5
Makhir Coast ports	1,15,996	3·76	8·4

12. The following were the principal indigenous products exported, comprising about 94 per cent. of the total trade, as compared with 96 per cent. in the preceding year* :—

Item.	Unit.	1922.
Bullocks	No.	1,577
Sheep and Goats	,,	92,424
Skins	,,	676,647
Hides	cwt.	218
Ghee	,,	5,098
Gums	,,	6,234

LAND CUSTOMS.

13. In addition to sea ports there are land Customs stations at Zeyla, Gabile and Boramo, through which passes a small amount of trade with Abyssinia.

The following are the figures for these stations :—

	Unit.	1922.
Imports from Abyssinia :—		
Millet	cwt.	16,415
Gram	,,	777
Cattle	No.	4,717
Exports to Abyssinia :		
Salt	cwt.	30,952

* In last year's annual report the percentage was given as 62 per cent. This figure was based on a total which included specie.

SHIPPING.

14. The following is a comparative table of the shipping, steam and country craft, which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the past two years :—

	1922.		1921.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered ..	829	44,121	1,193	58,740
Cleared ..	834	44,130	1,201	60,590

IV. EDUCATION.

15. The only Government school in the Protectorate is in Berbera, where there is an average attendance of 56 children, mostly Arabs and Indians.

Five boys are being educated at the Government College, Khartoum, and one at the Vernacular school in Aden.

V. MEDICAL.

16. The following is a comparative table of cases treated :—

	1922.		1921.
Admitted to hospital	1,252	..	1,262
Out-patients ..	17,696	..	19,119

The decrease was chiefly in minor ailments.

17. (A) GENERAL DISEASES. Cases treated :

	1922.		1921.
Scurvy	18	..	22
Ulcers	4,196	..	4,492
Tuberculosis ..	167	..	186

(B) COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

(1) *Insect borne.*			
Malaria	115	..	145
Relapsing Fever ..	92	..	113
(2) *Infectious and Epidemic.*			
Smallpox	10	..	32
Influenza	164	..	82
Dysentery	74	..	132

(C) VENEREAL DISEASE.

Syphilis	844	..	719
Gonorrhœa	313	..	406

18. The health of the European population was good.

Two officials were invalided, one for dysentery and the other for chronic dyspepsia.

19. The following table represents the work in the various hospitals in the Protectorate :—

	No. of in-patients.	Daily average in hospital.	No. of Deaths during the year.	No. of out-patients.	Average daily attendance.
Berbera	476	46·6	22	7,551	76·4
Zeyla	51	—	4	1,780	19·5
Burao	252	—	2	2,864	29·4
Sheikh	—	—	—	1,545	6·6
Hargeisa	357	—	6	2,834	42·8

VI. METEOROLOGY.

20. The rainfall records for the year were :—

	Total rainfall. inches.	Absolute maximum temperature Fahr.	Absolute minimum temperature Fahr.	Mean maximum.	Mean minimum.
Berbera ..	·79	116	58	96	74·5
Burao* ..	2·91	93	50	84·6	62·2
Sheikh ..	16·64	99	30	77·5	52·2
Hargeisa ..	15·28	100	33	85·7	56·5
Gabile ..	18·52	98	34†	92·2	41·4†

* No records in May and June have been recorded.
† Records for January to May only.

VII. POLICE AND JUDICIAL.

21. The Police establishment was :—

1 Commandant.
1 Assistant Commandant (who is also Director of Prisons).
5 District Police Officers.
3 British Warrant Officers.
About 500 Rank and File.

JUDICIAL.

22. The Law of the Protectorate is :—

(*a*) Coded Law, i.e., Indian Penal Code and Local Ordinances.
(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan Law.

For settlement of cases under (*b*) Akils' Courts have been instituted, consisting of selected Government headmen. There is an appeal from their decisions to the District Courts.

The following are the statistics :—

Criminal Cases tried under Coded Law—	1922.	1921.
(1) By District Courts	931 ..	967
(2) By Protectorate (or High Court) ..	Nil. ..	9

Cases tried under Tribal Custom—		
(1) By Akils' Courts	58 ..	—
(2) By District Courts	157 ..	478

VIII. PRISONS.

23. The average daily number of prisoners in Berbera gaol was 139·3 and in Zeyla gaol was 4·3.

There are also small gaols for short term prisoners at Burao, Hargeisa and Las Khorai.

IX. POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

24. The following is a comparative table of postal statistics :—

	1921–22.	1922–23.
Letters	167,485 ..	158,586
Post Cards	1,370 ..	1,193
Newspapers	18,988 ..	17,961
Book Packets and Samples	2,264 ..	1,985
Parcels	1,639 ..	1,436

25. The money order transactions were as follows :—

	1921–22.	1922–23.
	Rs.	Rs.
Issued in the Protectorate	51,889 ..	51,432
Paid in the Protectorate	81,381 ..	64,600

26. Postal revenue and expenditure were as follows :—

	1921–22.	1922–23.
	£	£
Revenue	2,561 ..	543
Expenditure	1,205 ..	1,063

TELEGRAPHS.

27. Telegraph revenue and expenditure were as follows :—

	1921–22.	1922–23.
	£	£
Revenue	721 ..	677
Expenditure	5,714 ..	3,665

The above figures include in the expenditure on the Posts and Telegraphs Department neither the General Staff nor the expenses of Electric Light in Berbera, which is run in connection with the Wireless Station. The sum of £1,497 must be added to the expenditure of the two branches to arrive at the final total.

Wireless stations were in operation at :—

Berbera	..	1½ kilowat
Burao ..	..	1½ ,,
Hargeisa	..	1½ ,,
Las Khorai	..	½ ,,

A 1½ kwt. station was also erected at Zeyla. There is an Air Line from Berbera to Sheikh.

28. The weekly mail service from Aden has been continued throughout the year by Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers' steamers.

From Berbera mails are distributed throughout the Protectorate by dhow to Bulhar and Zeyla and by runners or car to other stations.

Mails are sent overland from Hargeisa to Harar in Abyssinia irregularly as occasion arises.

ROADS.

29. During the year the difficulty caused by the escarpment at Sheikh, which previously interrupted the motor traffic between the coast and the interior, was overcome by the repair of the old military road.

These are now uninterrupted motorable tracks :—

From Berbera to Upper Sheikh	45	miles.
,, Upper Sheikh to Burao	39	,,
,, Burao to Ainabo	70	,,
,, Burao to Hargeisa	100	,,
,, Hargeisa to Gabile (Abyssinian border)	38	,,
,, Berbera to Bulhar	45	,,
,, Zeyla to Arahalas	30	,,

X. MILITARY.

30. There was a considerable amount of military activity during the year owing to native unrest consequent on the murder of a British officer.

The normal military strength of the Protectorate was supplemented by two aeroplanes from the Aden Flight which remained in the Protectorate as part of the permanent garrison.

It was further supplemented by a company of the 41st Dogras from Aden from August till the end of the year.

The Indian Contingent of the Camel Corps, which had formed an integral part of the Corps in the past, was disbanded and replaced by a Contingent of Yaos from the 1st King's African Rifles, on the same basis.

The actual strength of the Corps remained the same, and was divided into Headquarter Company, two camel troops, one pony troop and Reserve. An alteration was made in its status by its incorporation with the King's African Rifles under the title of Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles.

H. B. KITTERMASTER,
Secretary to the Administration.

The Secretariat,
British Somaliland.
10*th December*, 1923.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1156	Nyasaland	1921
1157	Falkland Islands	,,
1158	Weihaiwei	1922
1159	Cyprus	,,
1160	Gambia	,,
1161	New Hebrides	1921 & 1922
1162	Nyasaland	1922
1163	Zanzibar	,,
1164	St. Helena	,,
1165	Sierra Leone	,,
1166	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
1167	Bermuda	,,
1168	Grenada	,,
1169	St. Lucia	,,
1170	Leeward Islands	1921–1922
1171	Fiji	1922
1172	Ceylon	,,
1173	Gibraltar	,,
1174	British Guiana	,,
1175	Barbados	1922–1923
1176	Basutoland	,,
1177	St. Vincent	,,
1178	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1922–1923
1179	Mauritius	1922
1180	Swaziland	,,
1181	British Honduras	,,
1182	Uganda	,,
1183	Federated Malay States	,,
1184	Unfederated Malay States	,,
1185	State of Brunei	,,
1186	Straits Settlements	,,
1187	Falkland Islands	,,
1188	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	,,
1189	British Solomon Islands Protectorate	1922–1923
1190	Jamaica	1922
1191	Seychelles	1922
1192	Bahamas	1922–1923

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-Seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
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92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1226.

SOMALILAND

REPORT FOR 1923

(For Report for 1922 see No. 1193)

LONDON:
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1924.

Price 6*d. Net.*

No. 1226.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT ON SOMALILAND FOR THE YEAR 1923.

I. POLITICAL AND GENERAL.

1. The year opened in some uncertainty as to the political situation, the native population being in an excited condition owing to internal disturbances during the previous year.

Successful action by the Camel Corps against two of the principal sections concerned had a most salutory effect and during the last nine months of the year the country enjoyed a more complete peace from internal trouble than at any time for the last 20 years. International trouble with tribes under Italian and Abyssinian jurisdiction was also less marked, some few raids on a small scale only being recorded.

The peaceful conditions greatly strengthened the hands of the district officers who were able to enforce judgments given in the Courts without the delay which in the past has hampered the administration of justice.

II. FINANCE 1923–1924.

REVENUE.

2. The revenue of the Protectorate for the year amounted to £78,541, a decrease of £3,775 under the year 1922–1923. The principal sources of revenue were :—

Customs : £57,605, an increase of £5,865 over the previous year.
Fees of Court and Office : £12,482, an increase of £2,216 over the previous year.
Miscellaneous Receipts : £3,463, a decrease of £6,543 under the previous year.
Licences, Excise, &c. : £3,462, an increase of £508 over the previous year.
Port and Harbour dues : £108, a decrease of £64 under the previous year.
Posts and Telegraphs : £1,308, an increase of £89 over the previous year.

The increase collected under Customs was the result of the introduction of increased tariffs. It did not represent a true increase in trade. The increase under Fees of Court and Office was the result of an increase in the revenue collected under Zariba fees or octroi dues.

The decreased revenue under Miscellaneous Receipts includes receipts of a non-recurrent nature and in consequence this source of revenue is liable to great fluctuations from year to year. There was also a loss to revenue of £5,837 on account of the exchange rate between sterling and the rupee.

There was a free Grant-in-Aid from the Imperial Treasury of £15,000 to meet unanticipated military expenditure during the previous year consequent on the murder of a British officer, and a free Grant-in-Aid of £45,000 to meet the anticipated military expenditure during the current year. In addition there was a loan of £29,000 to be repaid when the finances of the Protectorate should permit.

The situation in regard to the Public Debt of the Protectorate is as follows :—

It has been decided that military expenditure is to be met by a free Grant-in-Aid, with effect from the year 1921–1922.

The military expenditure for the years 1921–1922 and 1922–1923 has been determined at a total figure of £112,000 and the liability of the Protectorate to repay on the Loans-in-Aid in respect of these two years is, therefore, £175,000 less £112,000 *i.e.*, £63,000.

The Public Debt of the Protectorate is, therefore, £63,000 plus £29,000 loan for the year under review, *i.e.*, £92,000.

Expenditure.

3. The total expenditure for the year was £144,383 showing a decrease of £110,942 under the previous year. Of this decrease, £10,131 was due to the fall in the cost of men and animal rations, and is a true decrease in recurrent expenditure. The saving of the remaining odd £100,000 is due to the settlement in 1922–1923 of the large outstanding claim of the Air Ministry in respect of the operations against the Mullah in 1921.

Financial Position on 31st March, 1924.

4. The abstract of revenue and expenditure was as follows :—

	£	£
Balance in hand 1st April, 1923	25,573	
Revenue	78,541	
Free Grant-in-Aid	66,000	
Imperial Loan	29,000	
		199,054
Expenditure	144,383	
Balance in hand	54,671	
		199,054

Currency and Banking.

5. The monetary unit current in the Protectorate is the Indian rupee.

The following Indian coins also are in circulation :— 1 pie, ½ pice, pice, ½ anna, 1, 2, 4 and 8 annas, and Government of India notes.

The average rate of exchange with London was to the rupee 1*s.* 4·47*d.*

(16151) Wt. 16863/1146 500 11/24 Harrow G.94 A 2

6. The estimated value of currency in circulation at the close of the year was :—

Indian coin	Rs.9,00,000
Indian notes	Rs.3,00,000

7. There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a private firm, Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, of Bombay, accept deposits from private individuals and cash cheques drawn against them. There are no banking laws in force.

III. TRADE AND SHIPPING.

8. At the beginning of the year there was a marked improvement in the trade, but an unusually heavy rainfall, which fell throughout the interior of the Protectorate during August and September, provided exceptional grazing for livestock and in consequence a plentiful milk supply, which rendered the natives independent of the imported food supplies for the latter months of the year. Comparatively few caravans, therefore, came to the coast during the period November to February, when trade is usually at its zenith, and the returns for those months shewed a decrease on the returns for the previous months for the first time in over twenty years. As a result there has been a general decrease in the returns for the whole year. The main articles of export from the Protectorate are sheep and goat skins. There was an increase in the volume of this trade, but prices fell during the year so that the value of the trade decreased. There was a decrease also in the second largest item of export, live sheep and goats. The good grazing was reflected in an increase in the export of ghee but it was not sufficient to counteract the decrease in the other two items. The imports fell off in sympathy with the reduced purchasing power of the native, both cotton cloth and foodstuffs being slightly lower than the previous year.

A noticeable fact in the cotton cloth trade was the gain made by Japanese cloth over the American cloth of a similar quality.

The value of the sea-borne Protectorate trade, excluding specie, during the calendar year 1923 amounted to £545,211 (Rs. 81,78,165) as compared with £581,990 (Rs. 87,29,850) in 1922 as follows :—

	1922	1923
Imports	Rs.56,38,200 ..	Rs.48,85,455
Exports ..	Rs.30,91,650 ..	Rs.32,92,710
	Rs.87,29,850 ..	Rs.81,78,165

IMPORTS.

9. The imported trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs. 48,720, was distributed in the following proportions among the Protectorate ports :—

Port.	Amount. Rs.	Percentage in 1922.	Percentage in 1923.
Berbera	34,13,333 ..	70·1 ..	67·63
Bulhar	3,85,192 ..	7·55 ..	7·64
Zeyla	10,86,930 ..	18·86 ..	21·53
Makhir Coast ports ..	1,61,955 ..	3·49 ..	3·2

10. The following were the principal articles of import, representing 76 per cent. of the total trade, as compared with 79 per cent. in the preceding year.

Article.	Unit.	1922.	1923.
American grey sheeting ..	yards	2,260,506	1,238,270
Indian grey sheeting ..	,,	4,500	17,250
Japan grey sheeting ..	,,	197,968	934,310
Europe white long cloth ..	,,	622,949	690 074
Dates	cwt.	54,234	41,014
Rice	,,	94,820	84,790
Sugar	,,	18,655	15,640

EXPORTS.

11. The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.1,36,890, amounted to Rs.32,92,710 and was derived from the following sources :—

Port.	Amount. Rs.	Percentage in 1922.	Percentage in 1923.
Berbera ..	18,74,024 ..	57·37 ..	54·52
Bulhar	3,52,861 ..	12·87 ..	10·26
Zeyla	1,065,825 ..	26· ..	31·02
Makhir Coast ports	1,44,135 ..	3·76 ..	4·2

12. The following were the principal indigenous products exported, comprising about 93 per cent. of the total trade, as compared with 94 per cent. in the preceding year :—

Item.	Unit.	1922.	1923.
Bullocks	No.	1,577	1,167
Sheep and Goats ..	,,	92,424	79,509
Skins	,,	676,647	775,930
Hides	cwt.	218	126
Ghee	,,	5,098	8,796
Gums	,,	6,234	4,127

CUSTOMS TARIFF.

13. On the 1st April, 1923, various alterations were made to the Customs Duties as follows :—

Imports.

The *ad valorem* rate was increased from 10 per cent. to 15 per cent. *ad valorem* and the following specific import duties were increased :—

1. American grey sheeting per bale of 750 yards from Rs.40 to Rs.60.
2. Indian grey sheeting per bale of 750 yards from Rs.30 to Rs.45.
3. Japan grey sheeting per bale of 900 yards from Rs.50 to Rs.75.
4. Europe white longcloth No. 1 per bale of 40 yards from Rs.3 to Rs.4.
5. Europe white longcloth No. 2 per bale of 40 yards from Rs.2/8 to Rs.4.
6. Sugar, Java and Mauritius per 28 lb. from Re.1 to Rs.1/8.

The following commodities were added to the specific list :—

1. China grey sheeting at the rate of Rs.62/8 per 750 yards.
2. Dates at the rate of Rs.1/12 per 168 lb.
3. Rice at the rate of Rs.2/8 per 168 lb.

LAND CUSTOMS.

14. The following are the figures for the land customs stations at Zeyla, Gabile, Boramo and Somadu :—

	Unit.	1922.	1923.
Imports from Abyssinia :—			
Millet (Jowari)	cwt.	16,415	15,644
Cattle	No.	4,717	4,816
Exports to Abyssinia :—			
Salt	cwt.	30,952	34,314

TRANSIT TRADE.

14*a*. The transit trade through the Port of Zeyla to Abyssinia grew in volume during the year. Zeyla has to meet strong competititon from Jibuti, which is served by the railway line to Addis Ababa. Nevertheless, for certain portions of Abyssinia, particularly to Harar Province, merchants have found it profitable to rely on camel transport from Zeyla instead of rail transport from Jibuti.

The volume of transit trade through Zeyla during the year amounted to Rs.249,693 or 11·1 per cent of the total trade compared with Rs.86,432 or 4·66 per cent. for 1922.

SHIPPING.

15. The following is a comparative table of the shipping, steam and country craft, which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the past two years :—

	1922.		1923.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered ..	829	44,121	696	33,502
Cleared ..	834	44,130	693	32,640

IV. EDUCATION.

16. The only Government school is in Berbera, where there was an average attendance of 48 children. Scattered throughout the Protectorate are numberless small so-called schools of a religious character where native boys are taught to recite passages from the Koran.

Satisfactory progress is being made by four Somali boys who are completing their education at the Gordon College, Khartoum. One boy is being educated at the vernacular school in Aden.

V. MEDICAL.

17. The following is a comparative table of cases treated :—

	1923.	1922.
Admitted to hospital ..	1,100	1,252
Out-patients	22,817	17,696

Owing to the excellent rainfall throughout the year there has been a very small influx of natives into the coast towns during the winter months as compared with previous years, which accounts

for the fewer cases admitted to hospital. The up-country stations of Burao and Hargeisa account for most of the increase in out-patients.

18. (A) GENERAL DISEASES. Cases treated:

	1923.		1922.
Scurvy	6	..	18
Ulcers	4,000	..	4,196

(B) COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

(1) *Insect borne.*

	1923.		1922.
Malaria	205	..	115
Relapsing Fever ..	96	..	92

(2) *Infectious and Epidemic.*

	1923.		1922.
Smallpox	Nil.	..	10
Influenza	50	..	164
Dysentery	34	..	74
Diarrhœa	360	..	262
Tuberculosis ..	215	..	167
Whooping Cough ..	63	..	52
Measles	10	..	1
Chicken-pox ..	32	..	4

(C) VENEREAL DISEASE.

	1923.		1922.
Syphilis	946	..	844
Gonorrhœa	266	..	315

19. The health of the European population has been good. There have been no deaths or invalidings.

20. The following table represents the work in the various hospitals and dispensaries in the Protectorate:—

	No. of in-patients.	Daily average in hospital.	No. of deaths during the year.	No. of out-patients.	Average daily attendance.
Berbera	341	41·72	20	7,442	64·5
Zeyla	81	—	2	2,546	29·9
Burao	270	—	8	4,756	57·4
Sheikh	26	—	Nil	916	8·3
Hargeisa	262	—	7	3,445	43·
Las Khorai	120	—	Nil	1,938	12·3
Bulhar	—	—	Nil	1,774	6·4

VI. METEOROLOGY.

21. The rainfall this year has been heavy. The records are as follows :—

	Total rainfall. inches.	Absolute maximum temperature Fahr.	Absolute minimum temperature Fahr.	Mean maximum. Fahr.	Mean minimum. Fahr.	Total rainfall 1922. inches.
Berbera ..	2·86	116	60	95	76	·79
Burao ..	9·90	99	47·5	86	58	2·91
Sheikh ..	47·14	93	42	78·8	57·7	16·64
Hargeisa ..	16·86	92	41	83	60	15·28
Gabile ..	21·56*	100†	50†	92·2†	67·7†	18·52

* No records are available for January, February and December.
† No records are available for January and December.

VII. POLICE AND JUDICIAL.

22. The Police establishment was :—

1 Commandant.
1 Assistant Commandant (who is also Director of Prisons).
6 District Police Officers (who also assist in the administration of the districts).
3 British Warrant Officers.
About 500 Rank and File.

JUDICIAL.

23. The Law of the Protectorate is :—

(*a*) Coded Law, i.e., Indian Penal Code and Local Ordinances.
(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan Law.

The Akils Courts, which are composed of selected Government headmen, for the settlement of cases under tribal custom have on the whole proved ineffective and most cases are dealt with by the District courts to the greater satisfaction of the parties concerned :—

The following are the statistics :—

Criminal Cases tried under Coded Law—	1923.	1922.
(1) By District Courts	1,031 ..	931
(2) By Protectorate (or High Court) ..	1 ..	Nil.

Cases tried under Tribal Custom—		
(1) By Akils' Courts	29 ..	58
(2) By District Courts	315 ..	157

VIII. PRISONS.

24. The average daily number of prisoners in Berbera Gaol was 130·28 and in the Zeyla Gaol 2·16.

There are also small gaols for short term prisoners at Burao, Hargeisa and Las Khorai.

IX. POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

25. The following is a comparative table of postal statistics :—

	1922–23.		1923–24.
Letters	158,586	..	162,753
Post Cards	1,193	..	964
Newspapers	17,961	..	18,953
Book Packets and Samples	1,985	..	2,402
Parcels	1,436	..	1,490

26. The money order transactions were as follows :—

	1922–23.		1923–24.
	Rs.		Rs.
Issued in the Protectorate	51,432	..	34,242
Paid in the Protectorate	64,600	..	67,992

27. Postal revenue and expenditure were as follows :—

	1922–23.		1923–24.
	£		£
Revenue	543	..	705
Expenditure	1,063	..	1,014

TELEGRAPHS.

28. Telegraph revenue and expenditure were as follows :—

	1922–23.		1923–24.
	£		£
Revenue	677	..	603
Expenditure	5,714	..	3,851

The above figures in regard to expenditure do not include expenditure on account of upkeep of the General Staff and the Electric Light in Berbera which is run in connection with the Wireless Station. A sum of £1,463 should be added to the total of the expenditure of both branches to arrive at the final figure.

Wireless stations were in operation at :—

Berbera	..	1½ kilowat
Burao ..	..	1½ ,,
Hargeisa	..	1½ ,,
Zeyla ..	..	1½ ,,
Las Khorai	..	½ ,,

There is an air line from Berbera to Sheikh.

29. The weekly mail service from Aden has been carried on throughout the year by Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers' steamers.

From Berbera mails are distributed throughout the Protectorate by dhow to Bulhar and Zeyla and by runners or motor car to other stations. Mails are sent overland from Hargeisa to Harar in Abyssinia irregularly as occasion arises.

Roads.

30. A track has now been cleared from Bulhar to Zeyla and it is negotiable by motor except during the period May to October, when the South West monsoon makes travelling impossible along the coast road on account of the driven sand.

Considerable improvements have been made to the road up the escarpment between Lower and Upper Sheikh.

There are the following uninterrupted motor tracks :—

Berbera to Bulhar	45 miles.
Bulhar to Zeyla	100 ,,
Zeyla to Arahalas	30 ,,
Berbera to Upper Sheikh	45 ,,
Upper Sheikh to Burao	39 ,,
Burao to Ainabo	70 ,,
Burao to Hargeisa	100 ,,
Hargeisa to Gabile (Abyssinian Border) ..	38 ,,

X. MINERALOGY.

31. The services of a geologist were secured for the purpose of making a geological survey of the Protectorate.

His full report had not been completed by the end of the year, but interim reports indicated promising results.

No progress was made by Messrs. Hajeebhoy Lalljee and Company in developing the concession granted to them for working the oil field at Dagah Shabell and the concession lapsed.

An explorer's licence for mica and alabaster was granted to a representative of an East African Syndicate.

H. B. KITTERMASTER,
Secretary to the Administration.

The Secretariat,
British Somaliland.
16*th September*, 1924.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1194	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1922–1923
1195	Leeward Islands	,,
1196	Turks and Caicos Islands	1922
1197	Nigeria	1923
1198	Weihaiwei	,,
1199	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1922–1923
1200	Ashanti	,,
1201	Gambia	1923
1202	Bahamas	1923–1924
1203	Hongkong	1924
1204	Nyasaland	1923
1205	Cayman Islands	1922
1206	Cyprus	1923
1207	Gold Coast	1922–1923
1208	Trinidad and Tobago	1923
1209	Zanzibar Protectorate	,,
1210	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1923–1924
1211	Swaziland	1923
1212	Basutoland	1923–1924
1213	Turks and Caicos Islands	1923
1214	Fiji	,,
1215	British Honduras	,,
1216	New Hebrides	,,
1217	Gibraltar	,,
1218	Jamaica	,,
1219	Sierra Leone	,,
1220	Uganda	,,
1221	Grenada	,,
1222	British Guiana	,,
1223	St. Vincent	,,
1224	St. Helena	,,
1225	Barbados	1923–1924

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

Printed by H.M.S.O. Press, Harrow.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1271.

SOMALILAND

REPORT FOR 1924

For Reports for 1922 and 1923 see Nos. 1193 and 1226.
(Price 6d. each.)

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No. 1271.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1924.

I. Political and General.

1. The peaceful condition of the country mentioned in last year's report continued unbroken during 1924. This state of things was reflected in a slight though steady improvement in trade.

II. Finance 1924-1925.

REVENUE.

2. The Revenue of the Protectorate for the year amounted to £82,607, an increase of £4,060 over the year 1923–1924. The principal sources of Revenue were :—

Customs : £60,955, an increase of £3,349 over the previous year.

Fees of Court and Office : £14,648, an increase of £2,165 over the previous year.

Miscellaneous Receipts : £2,948, a decrease of £515 under the previous year.

Licences, Excise, etc. : £2,240, a decrease of £1,222 under the previous year.

Posts and Telegraphs : £1,196, a decrease of £112 under the previous year.

Exchange : £496, an increase of £308 over the previous year.

The increase collected in Customs was the result of increased imports at Zeyla, and the general improvement of trade through the port of Berbera.

The increase under Fees of Court and Office was the result of an increase in the revenue collected under Zariba or octroi dues.

The increased collection under both these heads of Revenue gives a satisfactory indication of improved trade.

The situation in regard to the Public Debt of the Protectorate is as follows :—

On the 31st March, 1923, there was a debt of £63,000, as explained in the Report for last year.

For the year 1923–1924 the Imperial Treasury granted £95,000, of which £33,000, i.e., the sum expended on Civil Services, is repayable. The balance, which was expended on Military Services, has been treated as a free Grant-in-Aid.

During the current year a sum of £70,000 was granted of which £23,000 is repayable.

The Public Debt is, therefore, £63,000 plus £33,000 plus £23,000, i.e., £119,000.

EXPENDITURE.

3. The total expenditure for the year was £150,564, showing an increase of £6,181 over the previous year. Of this increase, £3,072 was due to fluctuations in the exchange rate of the rupee, and the balance was on account of a large building programme, to which reference is made in paragraph 32.

FINANCIAL POSITION ON 31ST MARCH, 1925.

4. The abstract of Revenue and Expenditure was as follows :—

	£
Balance in hand 1st April, 1924 ...	54,671
Revenue	82,607
Free Grant and Imperial Loan	70,000
	£207,278
Expenditure	150,564
Balance in hand	56,714
	£207,278

CURRENCY AND BANKING.

5. The monetary unit current in the Protectorate is the Indian rupee.

The following Indian coins also are in circulation :—

1 pie, ½ pice, pice, ½ anna, 1, 2, 4 and 8 annas, and Government of India Notes.

The average rate of exchange with London was to the rupee 1*s.* 5·42*d.*

6. The estimated value of currency in circulation at the close of the year was :—

Indian coin	Rs.9,00,000
Indian notes	Rs.3,00,000

7. There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a private firm, Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, of Bombay, accept deposits from private individuals and cash cheques drawn against them. There are no banking laws in force.

III. Trade and Shipping.

8. Trade returns have been satisfactory for the year under review, and the Customs Revenue shows an increase of £3,349 over last year.

There has been a decrease in the import of rice which indicates a change in the habits of the people, whose increase in livestock

(19985) Wt.15554/94 500 11/25 Harrow G.94

as the result of immunity from raids allows them to be more independent of imported food stuffs. Further, an extension of agriculture in the Protectorate is replacing imported rice by home-grown millet.

It will be observed from the statistics furnished in paragraph 12 that there has been a large increase in the export of skins. The value of this increase is counteracted by the heavy fall in the price of skins, but it may be considered a satisfactory indication of general improvement in trade.

The increase in imported Japanese cloth, as opposed to American cloth, to which reference was made in last year's Report, has continued in a marked degree.

The value of the sea-borne Protectorate trade, excluding specie, during the calendar year 1924 amounted to £561,352 (Rs.84,20,280), as compared with £545,211 (Rs.81,78,165) in 1923, as follows :—

	1923.	*1924.*
Imports ...	Rs.48,85,455	Rs.50,03,100
Exports ...	Rs.32,92,710	Rs.34,17,180
	Rs.81,78,165	Rs.84,20,280

IMPORTS.

9. The imported trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.1,05,345, was distributed in the following proportion among the Protectorate ports :—

Port.	*Amount Rs.*	*Percentage 1923.*	*Percentage 1924.*
Berbera	32,85,769	67·63	65·68
Bulhar	2,23,160	7·64	4·46
Zeyla	13,86,086	21·53	27·7
Makhir Coast Ports	1,08,085	3·2	2·16

10. The following were the principal articles of import, representing 73 per cent. of the total trade, as compared with 76 per cent. in the preceding year :—

Article.	*Unit.*	*1923.*	*1924.*
Japanese grey sheeting ...	Yards	934,310	2,587,245
American grey sheeting ...	,,	1,238,270	118,290
Indian grey sheeting	,,	17,250	115,860
European white long cloth ...	,,	690,074	849,025
Dates	Cwts.	41,014	62,181
Rice	,,	84,790	58,251
Sugar	,,	15,640	20,210

EXPORTS.

11. The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.79,995, amounted to the value of Rs.34,17,180. The following are the amounts and percentages for each port :—

Port.	*Amount* *Rs.*	*Percentage* *1923.*	*Percentage* *1924.*
Berbera	19,58,595	54·52	57·32
Bulhar	2,96,910	10·26	8·69
Zeyla	10,44,030	31·02	30·55
Makhir Coast ...	1,17,645	4·2	3·44

12. The following were the principal indigenous products exported, comprising about 92 per cent. of the total trade, as compared with 93 per cent. in the preceding year :—

Item.	*Unit.*	*1923.*	*1924.*
Bullocks	Number	1,167	881
Sheep and Goats...	,,	79,509	93,872
Skins	,,	775,930	1,008,859
Hides	Cwt.	126	17
Ghee	,,	8,796	8,986
Gums	,,	4,127	5,563

LAND CUSTOMS.

13. The following are the figures for the land customs stations at Boramo and Zeyla :—

	Unit.	*1923.*	*1924.*
Imported from Abyssinia—			
Millet (Jowari) ...	Cwts.	15,644	4,196½
Cattle	Number	4,816	3,792
Exports to Abyssinia—			
Salt	Cwts.	34,314	26,061

Customs stations at Gabile and Somadu have been closed.

TRANSIT TRADE.

14. The transit trade through the port at Zeyla to Abyssinia has continued to grow in volume during the year.

The volume of this trade through Zeyla during the year amounted to Rs.5,02,367, or 20·6 per cent. of the total trade, compared with Rs.2,49,693, or 11·1 per cent. for 1923.

SHIPPING.

15. The following is a comparative table of the shipping, steam and country craft, which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the past two years :—

	1923.		*1924.*	
	No.	*Tons.*	*No.*	*Tons.*
Entered ...	696	33,502	528	33,112
Cleared ...	693	32,640	523	32,588

IV. Education.

16. The only Government school is in Berbera, where there was an average attendance of 27 children. Scattered throughout the Protectorate are numberless small so-called schools of a religious character where native boys are taught to recite passages from the Koran.

The four sons of Somali notables who are being educated at the Gordon College, Khartoum, have completed the primary course and have now entered the Secondary School. From the reports received from the College authorities and interviews accorded to them during their holidays in this country they appear to be making satisfactory progress.

V. Medical.

17. The following is a comparative table of cases treated :—

	1923.	*1924.*
Admitted to hospital... ...	1,100	1,272
Out-patients	22,817	24,274

A new hospital of excellent design has been commenced in Berbera.

18. (A) *General diseases*, cases treated :—

	1923.	*1924.*
Scurvy	6	10
Tropical ulcers ...	4,000	3,500

(B) *Communicable diseases :—*

(1) *Insect-borne.*

	1923.	*1924.*
Malaria	205	106
Relapsing Fever ...	96	92

(2) *Infectious and epidemic.*

	1923.	*1924.*
Smallpox	Nil	Nil
Chicken-pox ...	33	53
Influenza	50	417
Dysentery	34	22
Diarrhœa	360	407
Tuberculosis ...	215	233
Leprosy	Nil	2
Measles	10	14

(C) *Venereal diseases :—*

	1923.	*1924.*
Syphilis	946	937
Gonorrhœa	266	263

19. The general health of the European population has been good. There have been no invalidings or deaths.

20. The following table represents the work in the various hospitals and dispensaries in the Protectorate :—

	No. of in-patients.	*Daily average in hospital*	*No. of deaths during the year.*	*No. of out-patients.*	*Average daily attendance.*
Berbera ...	357	43·44	23	7,113	64
Zeyla ...	64	4·98	4	2,248	26·62
Burao ...	348	9·48	12	5,494	67·2
Sheikh	26	0·17	Nil	2,491	20·12
Hargeisa ...	308	11·00	8	2,391	40·05
Las Khorai...	187	2·92	4	2,597	19·18
Bulhar ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	1,940	8·5

VI. Meteorology.

21. With the exception of Hargeisa, the rainfall has been lighter at all stations than during the preceding year.

	Total rainfall, inches.	*Absolute maximum Temperature Fahr.*	*Absolute minimum Temperature Fahr.*	*Mean maximum Fahr.*	*Mean minimum Fahr.*	*Total rainfall 1923, inches.*
Berbera ...	Nil	102	71	95·6	76·5	2·86
Burao ...	8·96	88·2	56	82·6	61·6	9·90
Sheikh ...	23·51	84·5	52·3	82·6	56·2	47·14
Hargeisa ...	18·06	89·7	53·3	85·4	60·0	16·86
Zeyla ...	0·56	98·6	83·3	94·6	85·8	*
Boramo ...	9·58†	*	*	*	*	*

* Not recorded. † For July to December only.

VII. Police and Judicial.

22. The Police Establishment was :—

1 Commandant.

1 Assistant Commandant (who is also Director of Prisons).

6 District Police Officers (who also assist in the administration of the districts).

2 British Warrant Officers.

About 500 Rank and File.

JUDICIAL.

23. The law of the Protectorate is :—

(*a*) Coded Law, i.e., the Indian Penal Code and Local Ordinances.

(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan Law.

As it is most desirable that the natives should take a share in the administration in so far as their capabilities will allow, the Akils' Courts have been continued, but it cannot be said that they are of great assistance to the District Commissioners.

The following are the statistics :—

Criminal cases tried under Coded Law.	*1923.*	*1924.*
(1) By District Courts	1,031	874
(2) By Protectorate Court (or High Court)	1	3

Cases tried under Tribal custom.	*1923.*	*1924.*
(1) By Akils' Courts	29	39
(2) By District Courts	315	362

VIII. Prisons.

24. The average daily number of prisoners in Berbera Gaol was 124·25, and in the Zeyla Gaol 1·29.

Considerable improvements were made to the dormitories and drains of the Berbera Central Gaol during the period under review.

There are small gaols for short-term prisoners at Burao, Hargeisa, and Las Khorai.

IX. Posts, Telegraphs and Communications.

25. The following is a comparative table of postal statistics :—

	1923–24.	*1924–25.*
Letters	162,753	70,720
Post Cards...	964	
Newspapers	18,953	19,556
Book packets and samples	2,402	6,604
Parcels	1,490	3,239

26. The money-order transactions were as follows :—

	1923–24.	*1924–25.*
	Rs	*Rs.*
Issued in the Protectorate ...	34,242	28,610
Paid in the Protectorate ...	67,992	96,671

27. Postal revenue and expenditure were as follows :—

	1923–24.	*1924–25.*
	£	£
Revenue	705	617
Expenditure	1,014	969

TELEGRAPHS.

28. Telegraph revenue and expenditure were as follows :—

	1923–24.	*1924–25.*
	£	£
Revenue	603	579
Expenditure	3,851	5,711

Wireless stations were in operation at :—

Berbera	1½	Kilowat
Burao	1½	,,
Hargeisa	1½	,,
Zeyla	1½	,,
Las Khorai	½	,,

There is an air-line from Berbera to Sheikh, and this year an extension was carried to Burao. There is telephone communication between Berbera, Sheikh, and Burao.

29. The weekly mail service from Aden has been carried on throughout the year by Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers' steamers.

From Berbera mails are distributed by dhow or steamer to Bulhar and Zeyla, and by runners or motor-cars to other stations in the Protectorate. Mails are sent overland from Hargeisa to the British Consulate at Harar in Abyssinia irregularly as occasion arises.

X. Public Works.

ROADS.

30. Considerable extensions have been made to the existing motor tracks. A very good motor track has been cleared from Gabile to Boramo, thus linking up Hargeisa with the most important station in the interior of the Zeyla District. A motor track is being cleared from Ainbo to Erigavo, the headquarters of the Warsangeli District and the most remote station in the Protectorate.

Further improvements have been made to the road up the escarpment between Lower and Upper Sheikh.

There are the following uninterrupted motor tracks :—

	Miles.
Berbera to Bulhar	45
Bulhar to Zeyla	100
Zeyla to Arabalas	30
Berbera to Upper Sheikh	45
Upper Sheikh to Burao	39
Burao to Ainabo,and now to Dubbur Dalol	177
Burao to Hargeisa	100
Hargeisa to Gabile	38
Gabile to Boramo	50

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

31. An experiment has been made by the purchase of a British touring car (Cubitt). To date the car has run satisfactorily, and it can negotiate bad tracks as well as a Ford.

It may, in future, be possible to substitute British-made cars for the foreign cars now in use in this country; but the impossibility of obtaining spare parts for British cars from any depot nearer than England increases the initial cost of each car

by at least 25 per cent., which is a serious consideration for the Government of this Protectorate whose financial position is not strong.

Owing to the improvement of the motor-track system, Indian and Arab firms have imported Ford trucks and touring cars, which are used for the transport of skins to the coast and for passenger traffic. The Somali is quite ready to pay for the luxury of travelling in a motor-car, and the cars are invariably crowded.

BUILDINGS.

32. An extensive building programme has been carried out during the period under review.

The headquarters of the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, at Burao, which for many years past have been situated in temporary mud huts and tents, have now been provided with an Officers' Mess and mud-brick quarters with stone foundations. A hospital has also been erected at Burao.

In Berbera a large new hospital has been commenced, and houses have been built at Hargeisa and Erigavo.

XI. Veterinary.

33. A Veterinary Department has been formed, primarily in order to re-assure importers into other countries of sheepskins from the Protectorate, and to prevent fears of anthrax.

The arrival of the Veterinary Officer coincided with one of the worst outbreaks of rinderpest that the country has suffered for many years. Quarantine was promptly established, and the disease was got under control.

In his annual report the Veterinary Officer states that the live-stock throughout the Protectorate is fairly free from disease, and that anthrax is not common. During the year under review only one case of anthrax has been discovered, and the probabilities of anthrax being conveyed to other countries through the medium of hides and skins are remote.

A stud farm of ponies for the Somaliland Camel Corps was instituted in November at Hargeisa.

XII. Mineralogy.

34. The Geologist has not yet completed his preliminary report of the geological survey of the Protectorate.

Negotiations are in progress for the development of the oil-field at Dagah Shabell; and the coal-field at Ankor gives promise of profitable development.

An exhibit of Somaliland minerals was on view at the British Empire Exhibition.

W. L. HEAPE,
Assistant Secretary to the Administration.

The Secretariat,
British Somaliland.
9th September, 1925.

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No. 1316.

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No. 1316.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1925.

I. Political and General.

1. Sir Gerald Summers, K.C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief, died in England on the 29th November, 1925. The news of his death was received with the deepest regret by all sections of the population of the Protectorate. Shops were closed and native weddings and festivities were postponed.

The peaceful condition of the country continued unbroken during 1925 and enabled district officers to give close and immediate attention to such small tribal disputes as arose, and in consequence early and satisfactory settlements were made.

Two conferences were held between representatives of the Protectorate and Italian Somaliland, and with the clearing of the situation in Italian Somaliland the agreements arrived at should have a beneficial effect on the peaceful administration of both countries.

The trouble with tribes under Abyssinian jurisdiction was less marked, but difficulties are likely to be encountered until the frontier has been delimited.

II. Finance 1925-1926.

REVENUE.

2. The revenue of the Protectorate for the year amounted to £89,057, an increase of £6,450 over the year 1924–1925. The principal sources of revenue were :—

Customs : £66,181, an increase of £5,226 over the previous year.

Licences, Excise, etc. : £13,772, an increase of £11,531 over the previous year.

Fees of Court or Office : £3,880, a decrease of £10,768 under the previous year.

Miscellaneous Receipts : £3,219, an increase of £270 over the previous year.

Posts and Telegraphs : £1,136, a decrease of £59 under the previous year.

The increase under " Customs " was the result of increased imports and exports at all the ports of the Protectorate, and is a satisfactory indication of the general improvement of trade.

The increase under " Licences and Excise " and the decrease under " Fees of Court or Office " were the result of the transfer from the latter to the former Schedule of the revenue collected under Zariba dues; and, owing to an increase of these dues, the net gain to revenue amounts to £763.

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The situation in regard to the public debt is as follows :—

In the Report* for last year it was stated that the public debt of £63,000 existing on the 31st of March, 1923, had been increased to £119,000 by loans-in-aid of civil expenditure of £33,000 and £23,000 in respect of the years 1923–1924 and 1924–1925 respectively. Subsequent adjustments between civil and military expenditure have reduced these loans to £29,000 and £21,000 respectively, thus making at the 31st March, 1925, a total of £113,000, not £119,000, repayable.

During the year under review a free grant of £60,000 in aid of military expenditure was received from the Imperial Government, but no loan-in-aid of civil expenditure was required.

The Protectorate Debt, therefore, on 31st of March, 1926, was £113,000.

EXPENDITURE.

3. The total expenditure for the year was £167,955, showing an increase of £17,391 over the previous year. Of this increase £17,155 was on account of military expenditure, due to the following circumstances :—

(1) Increase of cost of transport, due to an extensive and protracted military patrol in the eastern portion of the Protectorate.

(2) The general increase in the salaries of the officers of the King's African Rifles.

(3) The increase in the cost of rations for men and animals.

(4) The cost of the relief of the contingent from the 1st King's African Rifles which forms part of the Somaliland Camel Corps. These men had served their period of secondment and were repatriated to Nyasaland, a fresh contingent being sent to take their place.

FINANCIAL POSITION ON 31ST MARCH, 1926.

4. The abstract of revenue and expenditure was as follows :—

	£
Balance in hand 1st April, 1925	56,774
Revenue	89,057
Free Grant-in-Aid	60,000
	£205,831
Expenditure	167,955
Balance in hand	37,876
	£205,831

* No. 1271 in the Colonial Annual Reports series.

CURRENCY AND BANKING.

5. The monetary unit current in the Protectorate is the Indian rupee.

The following Indian coins also are in circulation :—

1 pie, 1 pice, 1, 2, 4 and 8 annas, and Government of India notes.

The average rate of exchange with London during the year was 1*s*. 6⅛*d*. to the rupee.

6. The estimated value of currency in circulation at the close of the year was :—

Indian coin	...	...	...	Rs.9,00,000
Indian notes	...	...	...	Rs.3,00,000

7. There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a private firm, Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers of Bombay and Aden, accepts deposits from private individuals and cash cheques drawn against them. There are no banking laws in force.

III. Trade and Shipping.

8. The trade returns in respect of the year under review have been entirely satisfactory, and with the exception of dates, the import of which has decreased very considerably, all articles of import have increased over last year, and the total value of the imports and exports is greater than that of the last five years. It would, however, be unwise to forecast a sustained improvement of the trade of this country, for the causes of the fluctuations which have occurred in the past have not yet been determined.

It is satisfactory to observe that the import of European (Manchester) white cloth is steadily increasing. This cloth, being a finer quality than unbleached calico or "grey sheeting," is more expensive and is only worn by the natives in towns or on special occasions. It is reasonable to assume, therefore, that increased importations of this material indicate a general improvement in the prosperity of the people.

The total number of skins exported has again considerably increased, and the price of skins has increased by approximately one anna five pies per skin over that of the previous year.

The value of the sea-borne trade of the Protectorate, excluding specie, during the calendar year 1925 amounted to £600,419 (Rs.90,06,285), as compared with £561,352 (Rs.84,20,280) and £545,211 (Rs.81,78,165) in 1924 and 1923 respectively, as follows :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*	*Total.*
	Rs.	*Rs.*	*Rs.*
1923 ...	48,85,455	32,92,710	81,78,165
1924 ...	50,03,100	34,17,180	84,20,280
1925 ...	53,65,455	36,40,830	90,06,285

IMPORTS.

9. The imported trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.53,475, was distributed in the following proportion amongst the Protectorate ports :—

Port.	*Amount. Rs.*	*Percentage. 1924.*	*Percentage. 1925.*
Berbera	30,84,632	65·68	57·49
Bulhar	3,69,780	4·46	6·89
Zeyla	17,63,295	27·7	32·87
Makhir Coast ...	1,47,750	2·16	2·75

10. The following were the principal articles of import, representing 79 per cent. of the total import trade, as compared with 73 per cent. and 76 per cent. in the preceding years.

Article.	*Unit.*	*1923.*	*1924.*	*1925.*
Japan grey sheeting ...	**Yards**	**934,310**	**2,587,245**	**2,857,110**
European white long cloth	**,,**	**690,074**	**849,025**	**927,226**
American grey sheeting	**,,**	**1,238,270**	**118,290**	**301,530**
Indian grey sheeting ...	**,,**	**17,250**	**115,860**	**Nil**
Dates	**Cwt.**	**41,014**	**62,181**	**38,281**
Rice	**,,**	**84,790**	**58,251**	**91,971**
Sugar	**,,**	**15,640**	**20,210**	**33,967**

EXPORTS.

11. The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.28,995, was derived from the following sources :—

Port.	*Amount. Rs.*	*Percentage. 1924.*	*Percentage. 1925.*
Berbera	21,41,805	57·32	58·83
Bulhar	2,99,535	8·69	8·23
Zeyla	10,56,850	30·55	29·0
Makhir Coast ...	1,43,640	3·44	3·94

12. The following were the principal indigenous products, comprising about 93 per cent. of the total export trade, as compared with 92 per cent. in the preceding year :—

Item.	*Unit.*	*1924.*	*1925.*
Skins	Number	1,008,859	1,302,302
Sheep and Goats	,,	93,872	97,492
Bullocks	,,	881	789
Ghee (clarified butter) ...	Cwt.	8,986	2,762
Gums and Resins	,,	5,563	5,227

LAND CUSTOMS.

13. The land Customs Station at Buramo in the Zeyla District was closed on the 1st February, 1925, in order to encourage the Abyssinian merchants to trade in the Zeyla District and thus stimulate the trade of the port of Zeyla.

A very considerable increase of trade was experienced at Buramo, but it is not certain that this experiment has justified itself as regards the increase of the volume of trade at Zeyla. It is true that the volume of transit trade has again increased (*vide* paragraph 14), and the value of the imports by sea at Zeyla has increased from Rs.13,86,086 to Rs.17,63,295, but there has been a corresponding increase of imports at all other ports of the Protectorate; and the value of the exports at Zeyla has not materially increased (i.e., Rs.10,55,850 as compared with Rs.10,44,030 for 1924).

The following are the figures for the land Customs Station at Zeyla :—

Imported from Abyssinia—

	Unit.	*1924.*	*1925.*
Millet (Jowari)	Cwt.	4,196½ (Zeyla and Buramo)	1,417
Wheat	,,	Nil	86

Exported to Abyssinia—

Salt from pans at Zeyla	,,	34,316	20,988

and 6,750 head of live stock have passed through the land Customs Stations, as compared with 3,792 in the previous year.

It is satisfactory to report that the export by land and sea of the salt from the pans at Zeyla has increased from 28,915 cwt. to 46,728 cwt. (i.e., 62 per cent).

TRANSIT TRADE.

14. The volume of transit trade through Zeyla during the year amounted to Rs.7,40,455 or 26·4 per cent. of the total trade, as compared with Rs.5,02,367 and Rs.2,49,693 for 1924 and 1923 respectively.

SHIPPING.

15. The following is the comparative table of the shipping, steam and country craft, which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the past three years :—

	1923.		*1924.*		*1925.*	
	No.	*Tons.*	*No.*	*Tons.*	*No.*	*Tons.*
Entered	696	33,502	528	33,112	560	38,420
Cleared	693	32,640	523	32,588	579	37,966

IV. Education.

16. There was an average daily attendance of 47 children at the Government school in Berbera, as compared with 27 for the previous year. The majority of these children are Indian or Arab. The Somalis as a whole are strenuously opposed to any education for their children other than that taught by their own Mullahs.

V. Medical.

17. The new hospital, to which refe ıce was made in the last Report, has been completed and is a great asset to the Protectorate. It contains two large wards, each of twenty-eight beds, and three private wards. In addition, there is a ward of forty beds for paupers and aged people who need medical treatment other than hospital treatment. There is an excellent operating theatre, an X-ray department, and a research laboratory, furnished with the most up-to-date equipment.

The hospital was opened by His Excellency the Acting Governor on the 3rd June, 1925.

The following is a comparative table of cases treated throughout the Protectorate during the last three years :—

	1923.	*1924.*	*1925.*
Admitted to hospital ...	1,100	1,272	1,451
Out-patients	22,817	24,274	24,870

These figures indicate a growing confidence on the part of the native population in the efficiency of European methods as opposed to their own primitive ways.

18. (A) *General Diseases.* Cases treated :—

	1924.	*1925.*
Scurvy	10	6
Tropical ulcers	3,500	4,469
Beri-Beri	—	2
Constipation	4,000	3,500

(B) *Communicable Diseases.* Cases treated :—

(1) *Insect-borne.*

	1924.	*1925.*
Malaria	106	830
Relapsing fever	92	118
Leishmaniasis	—	1*

* First known case in Somaliland.

(2) *Infectious and Epidemic.* Cases treated :—

	1924.	*1925.*
Erysipelas	—	1
Chicken-pox	53	62
Influenza	417	247
Dengue	—	85
Dysentery	22	30
Diarrhœa	407	379
Tuberculosis	233	278
Leprosy	2	6
Measles	14	8

(C) *Venereal Diseases.* Cases treated :—

	1924.	*1925.*
Syphilis	937	601
Gonorrhœa	263	263

19. The general health of the European population has been good. There have been no invalidings or deaths. Six Europeans contracted dengue in Berbera.

20. The following table represents the work in the various hospitals and dispensaries in the Protectorate :—

	No. of in-patients.	*Daily average in hospital.*	*No. of deaths during the year.*	*No. of out-patients.*	*Average daily attendance.*
Berbera ...	619	55·82	29	7,962	70·0
Zeyla ...	83	3·4	5	2,865	36·8
Burao ...	271	11·65	8	4,974	86·6
Sheikh ...	9	0·3	—	2,068	20·6
Hargeisa ...	314	14·3	9	2,669	35·1
Buramo ...	9	0·75	—	1,049	37·8
Bulhar ...	—	—	—	1,708	10·3
Erigavo ...	146	3·4	2	1,575	16·3

VI. Meteorology.

	Total rainfall, inches.	*Absolute maximum Temperature Fahr.*	*Absolute minimum Temperature Fahr.*	*Mean maximum Fahr.*	*Mean minimum Fahr.*	*Total rainfall 1924, inches.*
Berbera ...	0·56	112	60	93·6	75·6	0·98
Burao ...	11·89	94·5	51	82·5	64·0	8·96
Hargeisa...	16·39	94	34	84·8	59·2	18·06
Sheikh ..	20·59	94	28	80·9	54·8	23·51
Zeyla ...	2·04	110	53	91·3	78·2	0·56
Buramo ...	23·24	97	43	85·2	58·8	9·58
Erigavo ...	12·62	86	33	76·1	49·3	Not recorded.

VII. Police and Judicial.

Police.

22. The establishment of the Police Force was as follows :—

1 Commandant;

1 Assistant Commandant (who is also Director of Prisons);

6 District Police Officers (who also assist in the administration of the Districts);

1 British Warrant Officer, and 500 rank and file.

Judicial.

23. The law of the Protectorate is :—

(*a*) Coded Law, i.e., the Indian Penal Code, and local ordinances,

(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan Law.

A new Code of Criminal Procedure is being prepared on the lines of the Criminal Procedure Code of Kenya.

The following are the criminal statistics for the year :—

Criminal cases tried under Coded Law.

	1924	*1925.*
(1) By District Courts	874	842
(2) By the Protectorate (or High Court)	3	1

Cases of a criminal nature tried under Tribal custom.

(1) By Akils' (native) Courts	39	27
(2) By District Courts	362	355

VIII. Prisons.

24. The central gaol is in Berbera, where lunatics are also confined, if necessary. There are small gaols at Zeyla, Burao, Hargeisa and Erigavo.

The average daily number of prisoners in Berbera Gaol was 104·23, as compared with 124·25 for the previous year.

IX. Posts, Telegraphs and Communications.

25. Postal and Telegraph revenue and expenditure were as follows :—

	1924–25.	*1925–26.*
	£	£
Revenue	579	1,136
Expenditure	5,711	6,695

26. The money-order transactions were as follows :—

	1924–25.	*1925–26.*
	Rs.	*Rs.*
Issued in the Protectorate ...	28,610	39,462
Paid in the Protectorate ...	96,671	1,18,341

POSTAL.

27. The following is a comparative table of postal statistics :—

	1924–25.	*1925–26.*
Letters	70,720	74,908
Post Cards		725
Newspapers	19,556	16,799
Book packets and samples	6,604	699
Parcels	3,239	1,806

28. The weekly mail service from Aden has been carried on throughout the year by Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers' steamers.

Mails are distributed by dhow or steamer to Bulhar and Zeyla and by motor-car once a week to other stations in the Protectorate, except to Erigavo for which there is a weekly service by runners. Urgent mails are sent overland from Hargeisa to the British Consulate at Harar in Abyssinia.

TELEGRAPHS.

29. A new wireless station with a $1\frac{1}{2}$ kilowatt set has been installed at Erigavo, the headquarters of the Erigavo District (referred to in previous Reports as the Warsangeli Area District).

Wireless stations ($1\frac{1}{2}$ kilowat) are in operation at Berbera, Burao, Hargeisa, Zeyla, and Erigavo.

30. There is an air-line from Berbera to Burao, via Sheikh, which is used for telegraph and telephone communication.

X. Public Works.

31. The motor-track to Erigavo, to which reference was made in the last Report, has been completed and extended to Barran, and there are now 839 miles of uninterrupted motor-tracks as follows :—

	Miles.
Berbera to Dubar	8
Berbera to Habalo Tomalo	18
Berbera to Zeyla via Bulhar	145*
Berbera to Upper Sheikh	50
Upper Sheikh to Burao	38
Burao to Erigavo via Ainabo	243
Erigavo to Barran	108
Burao to Hargeisa	114
Hargeisa to Buramo via Gibile	85
Zeyla to Arahalas	30
Total	839

* Only passable for motor traffic during the winter months.

The construction of a road from Berbera to Hargeisa, via Habalo Tomalo, is under consideration.

32. The Cubitt touring car referred to in the last Report continues to run satisfactorily; and, although the Government has not purchased any more cars of British make, a Government officer has imported an eleven h.p. Singer which has put up an excellent performance. There are also six motor-cycles owned by Government officers.

In spite of the obvious disadvantages of a motor-cycle as compared with a motor-car for travelling through uncivilised country, the demand by Government officers for motor-cycles appears to be on the increase.

The Indian and Arab merchants continue to run a service for the public with Ford trucks and Ford touring cars.

33. The most important works which have been completed are the Hospital at Berbera, the Headquarters Station at Erigavo which contains a commodious fort, District Commissioner's house, court, offices, and quarters for staff, and the military buildings at Burao. Next year it is proposed to build a permanent station at Buramo, the headquarters of the interior of the Zeyla District.

XI. Veterinary.

34. The Veterinary Officer reports that the stock of the country generally is in good condition, but some areas are overstocked, in spite of the very severe drought at the end of 1924, which killed off large numbers of stock throughout the Protectorate.

Disease has not been so prevalent as in the previous year, but an epidemic of pleuro-pneumonia-contagiosa has broken out among cattle in the western part of the Protectorate and may cause high mortality before it is controlled.

There have been only three cases of anthrax diagnosed.

As a result of representations made by certain British firms, the veterinary subordinates have been endeavouring to instruct the natives in the proper way of skinning and drying the skin of the black-headed sheep. It is, however, difficult to persuade Somalis to change their own methods.

The ponies in the stud-farm for the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, at Hargeisa suffered from the effects of the drought previously referred to, but all the mares and young stock are now looking well, and there is every reason to hope that the stud-farm will prove a success.

XII. Agriculture.

35. At the end of the year the Government Geologist was appointed Director of Agriculture in addition to his other duties. It is proposed to organise the native methods of growing the local crops and to gradually introduce plants which will be of more value to the natives and to the revenue of the Protectorate.

Two light ploughs, one harrow and one scuffler have been imported from Canada, and one or two small experimental farms will be started in the western area of the Protectorate.

XIII. Mineralogy.

36. The Report on the Geology and Mineral Resources of British Somaliland has been completed by the Government Geologist, and copies may be bought at the price of four shillings a copy from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, S.W.1.

The coal-field at Ankor, referred to in the last Report, has not been developed, but the negotiations for the development of the oil-field at Dagah Shabell are proceeding favourably.

XIV. Military.

37. During the period May to October a strong patrol of the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, consisting of five military officers, one political officer, one medical officer, 150 rank and file of the Camel Corps, 50 Police and native levies, and one twelve-pounder gun proceeded to Barran (approximately 10° 15′ North and 48° 45′ East), near the eastern boundary of the Protectorate, to demolish a fort which had been built by a sultan of the Mijertein.

The destruction of the fort was successfully accomplished and the patrol remained in the vicinity to enforce the Mijertein to settle the various claims by British-protected tribes outstanding against them. Satisfactory settlements having been made, orders for the withdrawal of the patrol were issued early in September, and fifty rank and file under the command of one officer were detached from the main patrol to return by a detour to the Headquarters at Burao. During the return journey they severely defeated and dispersed a band of outlaws and free-booters which had for some months constituted a serious menace to the peace of our tribes in the far eastern area of the Protectorate.

W. L. HEAPE,

Assistant Secretary to the Government.

The Secretariat,

British Somaliland.

16*th September*, 1926.

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SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1926.

(For Reports for 1924 and 1925 see Nos. 1271 and 1316 respectively (Price 6d. each).)

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SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1926.

I.—Political and General.

During the year under review the Government of Italian Somaliland undertook an expedition with a view to disarming certain recalcitrant tribes under their jurisdiction who are intimately connected with some sections of our tribes. This action by the Italian Government has reacted to a considerable extent on the political situation in the eastern area of this Protectorate; for, while a portion of the Italian subject tribes submitted to the demands of the Italian Government, a powerful section continued in open rebellion, and at the end of the year the political situation in the eastern area of this country was somewhat clouded.

It has not yet been possible to come to any satisfactory agreement with the Abyssinian Government as to the status of certain tribes living at times on either side of the Abyssinian—British Somaliland border, and trouble with the local Abyssinian authority was prevalent throughout the year.

In all other parts of the Protectorate, however, peaceful conditions prevailed, and with good rains the country as a whole enjoyed a prosperous year.

II.—Finance, 1926-1927.

Revenue.

2. The revenue of the Protectorate for the year amounted to £90,569, an increase, as compared with 1925-26, of £1,512. The principal sources of revenue were :—

Customs : £67,090, an increase of £908 over the previous year.

Licences, Excise, &c. : £14,461, an increase of £689 over the previous year.

Fees of Court or Office : £4,172, an increase of £292 over the previous year.

Posts and Telegraphs : £1,452, an increase of £316 over the previous year.

Miscellaneous Receipts : £3,287, an increase of £68 over the previous year.

The increase under "Customs" indicates a slow but steady improvement in trade, as is shown by the figures for the last five years :—

	£
1922-23	51,740
1923-24	57,606
1924-25	60,955
1925-26	66,182
1926-27	67,090

The increase under "Licences, Excise, &c.," was the result of a larger number of political cases being brought before the District Courts.

The increase under "Fees of Court or Office" was largely due to the following causes:—

(i) Establishment of more meat markets and the consequent collection of market fees;

(ii) Increased contributions to Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund;

(iii) Larger sale of drugs.

The increase under "Posts and Telegraphs" was the result of purchase of stamps by philatelists.

Public Debt.

The Protectorate debt due to the Imperial Treasury remains at £113,000 as mentioned in the report for 1925-26.

Expenditure.

3. The total expenditure brought to account amounted to £149,125, showing a decrease of £18,830 under the previous year.

Financial Position on 31st March, 1927.

4. The abstract of revenue and expenditure was as follows:—

	£
Balance in hand, 1st April, 1926	37,876
Revenue	90,569
Free Grant-in-Aid	45,000
	£173,445

	£
Expenditure	149,125
Balance in hand	24,320
	£173,445

This improvement is due as much to increase in revenue as economy in expenditure.

Currency and Banking.

5. The monetary unit current in the Protectorate is the Indian rupee.

The following Indian coins also are in circulation:—

1 pie, 1 pice, 1, 2, 4, and 8 annas, and Government of India notes.

The average rate of exchange with London during the year was 1*s.* $6\frac{1}{16}$*d.* to the rupee.

6. The estimated value of currency in circulation at the close of the year was :—

	Rs.
Indian coins	9,00,000
Indian notes	3,00,000

7. There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a private firm, Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, of Bombay, accept deposits from private individuals, and cash cheques drawn against them. There are no banking laws in force.

III.—Trade and Shipping.

8. Trade had been somewhat stagnant in the early part of the year, but there was a very marked improvement later.

Sea Customs.

The value of the sea-borne Protectorate trade during the year 1926 was Rs.81,48,360, as compared with Rs.90,06,285 in 1925. The following comparative table shows the value of the imports and exports, excluding specie, during the last three years :—

Year.	*Imports.* Rs.	*Exports.* Rs.	*Total.* Rs.
1924	50,03,100	34,17,180	84,20,280
1925	53,65,455	36,40,830	90,06,285
1926	44,59,650	36,88,710	81,48,360

Imports.

9. The import trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.1,51,695, amounted to Rs.44,59,650 and was distributed in the following proportions amongst the four Protectorate ports :—

Ports.	*Amount.* Rs.	*Percentage.* 1925.	*Percentage* 1926.
Berbera	26,22,345	57·49	58·80
Bulhar	2,37,630	6·89	5·33
Zeilah	14,65,485	32·87	32·86
Makhir Coast Ports ...	1,34,190	2·75	3·10

10. The following were the principal articles of import, representing 73 per cent. of the total trade, as compared with 79 per cent. in the preceding year :—

Articles.	*Unit.*	*Year 1925.*	*Year 1926.*
American grey sheeting ...	Yards	301,530	166,440
Japan grey sheeting	,,	2,857,110	2,466,010
China grey sheeting	,,	—	32,300
European white longcloth ...	,,	927,226	1,399,902
Dates	Cwt.	38,281	47,761
Rice	,,	91,971	56,259
Sugar	,,	33,967	31,762

Exports.

11. The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.1,52,835, amounted to Rs.36,88,710 and was derived from the following sources :—

Port.	*Amount.*	*Percentage.*	*Percentage.*
	Rs.	*1925.*	*1926.*
Berbera	20,68,080	58·83	56·70
Bulhar	3,48,135	8·23	9·44
Zeilah	10,43,190	29·00	28·28
Makhir Coast ports	2,29,300	3·94	6·21

12. The following were the principal indigenous products, comprising about 92 per cent. of the total export trade as compared below with 93 per cent. in the preceding year :—

Item.	*Unit.*	*Year 1925.*	*Year 1926.*
Bullocks	No.	789	1,008
Sheep and Goats	,,	97,492	126,280
Skins	,,	1,302,302	1,066,702
Hides	Cwt.	653	181
Ghee (clarified butter) ...	,,	2,762	3,693
Gums and resins	,,	5,227	6,766

Land Customs.

13. The following statement shows the quantity, description, and value of the import trade recorded at the Zeilah frontier station during 1925 and 1926 :—

Item.	*1925.*		*1926.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Cwt.	*Rs.*	*Cwt.*	*Rs.*
Millet (Jowari)	1,417	14,680	955¾	9,875
Wheat	86	885	44½	470
Miscellaneous	—	440	—	1,276

14. The following are the export figures recorded at the Zeilah frontier station during 1925 and 1926 :—

Item.	*1925.*		*1926.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	No.	*Rs.*	*No.*	*Rs.*
Horses	1	100	5	400
Camels	20	1,100	53	2,954
Cattle	827	33,080	945	37,800
Sheep and goats	5,901	66,390	4,905	55,184
	Cwt.		*Cwt.*	
Salt	20,988	15,749	19,089	11,152

Quantity of salt exported by land and sea.

The quantity of salt removed from the salt-pans at Zeilah was 41,533 cwt., compared with 46,728 cwt. in 1925, a decrease of about 11 per cent.

Shipping.

15. The following is the comparative table of the steam and country craft shipping which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the past two years :—

	1925.		1926.	
	Number.	*Tons.*	*Number.*	*Tons.*
Entered ...	560	36,420	504	39,920
Cleared ...	579	37,966	511	40,870

IV.—Education.

16. The average daily attendance at the Government School in Berbera was 32 children, as compared with 47 for the preceding year.

V.—Medical.

17. The following is a comparative table of cases treated in the last three years :—

	1924.	*1925.*	*1926.*
Admitted to Hospital	1,272	1,451	1,885
Out-patients	24,274	24,870	23,777
Deaths	51	53	55

While there has been a decrease in the number of out-patients of 1,093, i.e., 4.39 per cent., the in-patients have increased by 434, i.e., 29.98 per cent. The decrease in attendance of out-patients is due to good seasons, during which patients are reluctant to come to stations in great numbers. Somalis take the opportunity of attending the hospital when their *karias*, which they move about according to grazing, are not far away from stations and when their attendance at a District Court is essential. When pasture is good in the interior the attendance drops.

18.—(a) *General Diseases*—

Cases treated.

	1925.	*1926.*
Scurvy	6	1
Beri-Beri	2	4
Epidemic Dropsy	—	18, with one death.

(b) *Communicable Diseases*—

(I) Insect-borne :—

	1925.	*1926.*
Malaria	834	635
Relapsing fever	118	131
Leishmaniasis	1	1

(II) Infectious and Epidemic :—

Cases treated :—

	1925.	*1926.*
Chicken-pox	62	6
Influenza	247	126
Dengue	85	4
Dysentery (Bacillary)	30	26
Tuberculosis	278	222
Leprosy	6	14
Measles	8	9

(c) *Venereal Diseases*—

Cases treated :—

	1925.	*1926.*
Syphilis	601	649
Gonorrhœa	145	122

19. The sick-rate among the European officials has been doubled. In Berbera there has been a series of illnesses of unknown cause. There have been no invalidings or deaths.

20. The following table represents the work in the various hospitals and dispensaries in the Protectorate :—

Hospital.	*No. of In-patients.*	*Daily average in hospital.*	*No. of deaths during the year.*	*No. of Out-patients.*	*Average daily attendance.*
Berbera ...	736	61·80	30	5,807	61·12
Zeilah ...	72	4·44	3	2,180	26·93
Burao ...	407	23·16	8	5,764	76·86
Sheikh ...	11	0·3	—	1,718	18·4
Hargeisa...	348	15·0	11	2,820	44·25
Buramo ...	46	0·82	1	1,816	33·3
Bulhar ...	—	—	—	1,601	9·02
Erigavo ...	179	7·7	2	2,071	20·6

VI.—Meteorology.

21. The rainfall records for the year were :—

Station.	*Total rainfall. Inches.*	*Absolute maximum temperature.*	*Absolute minimum temperature.*	*Mean maximum.*	*Mean minimum.*
		Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.
Berbera	6·54	111	61	93	79
Burao	12·3	92	48	84	65
Sheikh	27·38	95	37	82	58
Hargeisa	31·91	92	30	85	58
Zeilah	10·81	108	52	91	74
Buramo	27·79	92	39	83	59
Erigavo	18·34	85	28	79	49

VII.—Police and Judicial.

Police.

22. The establishment of the Police Force on the 31st of December, 1926, was as follows :—

1 Commandant.
1 Assistant Commandant (who is also a Director of Prisons).
5 District Police Officers.
1 Pay and Quartermaster, and
500 rank and file.

Next year, on reorganisation, the five District Police Officers will be transferred to the Administrative staff.

Judicial.

23. The Law of the Protectorate is :—

(*a*) Coded Law, i.e., the Indian Penal Code and local Ordinances;
(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan Law.

The new Code of Criminal Procedure, referred to in the last Report, has been completed and will be introduced next year.
The following are the statistics :—

Criminal cases tried under Coded Law.

	1925.	*1926.*
(1) By District Courts	842	915
(2) By the Protectorate (or High Court)	1	1

Cases of a criminal nature tried under Tribal custom.

	1925.	*1926.*
(1) By Akils' (Native) Courts ...	27	83
(2) By District Courts	355	573

VIII.—Prisons.

24. The Central Gaol is in Berbera, where lunatics are also confined if necessary.
There are small gaols at Zeilah, Burao, Hargeisa, and Erigavo.
The average daily number of prisoners in Berbera Gaol was 96.321, as compared with 104.23 for the previous year.

IX.—Posts, Telegraphs, and Communications.

25. Postal and Telegraphs revenue and expenditure were as follows :—

	1925-26.	*1926-27.*
	£	£
Revenue	1,136	1,452
Expenditure	7,421	7,447

26. The money-order transactions were as follows :—

	1925-26.	*1926-27.*
	Rs.	Rs.
Issued in the Protectorate ...	39,462	32,532
Paid in the Protectorate... ...	1,18,341	1,24,739

Postal.

27. The following is a comparative table of postal statistics :—

	1925-26.	*1926-27.*
Letters	74,908	100,984
Post-cards	725	572
Newspapers	16,799	16,744
Book packets and Samples ...	699	690
Parcels	1,806	1,785

28. The weekly mail service from Aden has been carried out throughout the year by Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers' steamers.

Mails are distributed by motor-car once a week to all the stations in the Protectorate except to Erigavo, Bulhar, and Zeilah, to which places there is a weekly service by runners.

Telegraphs.

29. Wireless stations ($1\frac{1}{2}$ Kilowatt) are in operation at Berbera, Burao, Hargeisa, Zeilah, and Erigavo.

There is an air-line from Berbera to Burao via Sheikh, which is used for telegraph and telephone communication.

30. The telegraph charges are :—

Six annas per word from any Protectorate station to Aden.

Two annas per word to any station within the Protectorate.

Rs. 1-14-0 per word to United Kingdom (half this rate is charged for deferred telegrams).

Rs. 1-6-0 per word to India (half this rate is charged for deferred telegrams).

X.—Public Works.

31. Work on the road from Berbera to Hargeisa via Habalo-Tomalo (referred to in the last Report) has been commenced. It is anticipated that when completed this road will bring a considerable increase of trade to Hargeisa.

A motor track has been cleared from Gosawein, just off the Burao-Erigavo road, to Hudin for the use of the military. The road from Bulhar to Zeilah was closed during the year.

32. The two cars of British manufacture now in the country have continued to put up a good performance and there are indications that several more British touring cars will be imported by Government officers next year.

The number of traders' cars has increased.

The Government has under contemplation the replacement of Ford one-ton lorries, and enquiries are being made with regard to light British-made commercial vehicles which have proved to be successful in other Colonies and Protectorates.

XI.—Veterinary.

33. During the year under review only three outbreaks of anthrax occurred, of short duration and of a very localised nature. Some 1,800 cattle were infected with pleuro-pneumonia-contagiosa, but were quickly got under control by quarantine and inoculation. Otherwise the country has been free from cattle disease.

Sambub in sheep and goats prevailed and caused a high mortality. Natives have been advised to isolate the sick animals and separate the infected herds from the healthy ones. Steps are being taken to alleviate the conditions.

34. The mares in the Government stud-farm appear to be in excellent condition. 15 foals were born and lived, and 24 more are expected. This is considered to be a very high percentage. It is hoped that in five years' time the stud-farm will be capable of supplying the requirements of the Protectorate.

XII.—Agriculture.

35. Early in the year a definite agricultural policy for the Protectorate was sanctioned. Owing to the present primitive state of native agriculture, it is essential, as a beginning, that an improvement be made in the methods of tillage and in the quality of crop universally grown. To this end, practical demonstration of the use and advantages of a light European plough and harrows have been made by the Director of Agriculture in native gardens, several garden-owners have been taught to use them, and already there is sufficient demand for them to warrant a number being ordered from the makers for purchase. Further, several different strains of jowari (Sorghum) seed, more or less suitable to the conditions, have been obtained from abroad, from which it is intended, after trial on a Government plot, to select one or two to replace the worn-out varieties at present cultivated.

A few of the garden-owners already have experience of the value of rotation crops, and seed for trial as a simple rotation has also been ordered.

In addition, steps are being taken to introduce new fodder grasses, and an attempt is about to be made to grow particular varieties of lucerne.

Owing, however, to the fact that new inplements and new seed have been very late in arriving, few tangible results can be obtained before the next planting season. A considerable amount of interest in agricultural improvement has been aroused, and there is a reasonable prospect of permanent improvements being effected.

In Hargeisa Township native vegetable and fruit gradens have been laid out on a definite plan for allotment.

XIII.—Mineralogy.

36. During the year a prospecting licence was taken out for the mica-bearing area on the Mirso plateau, south of Berbera, and some four months' work was done by a representative of the licensee in systematic prospecting of the mica dykes. As a result, some excellent specimens of muscovite mica were obtained, and an expert in mica mining was commissioned by the syndicate concerned to report on the commercial prospects of the field. There is reason to believe the report was favourable, and, provided the capital necessary is forthcoming, work may be begun on mining leases on the field during next cool season.

Applications have also been made for a licence to prospect the occurrence of mica at Yubaleh Range, south of Zeilah.

A licence has been issued to prospect for galena and other minerals in the area south-east of Las Khoreh, and work will probably be begun in the area towards the end of the year.

The negotiations for the development of the oilfield at Dagah Shabell are nearing completion.

XIV.—Military.

37. Owing to the situation in the western part of Italian Somaliland, the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, has had to undertake an arduous and monotonous series of patrols in the eastern area of the Protectorate. There have been no active operations.

A. S. LAWRANCE,

Secretary to the Government.

THE SECRETARIAT,

BRITISH SOMALILAND,

9th September, 1927.

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No. 1390

SOMALILAND

REPORT FOR 1927

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SOMALILAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1927.

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History.

Prior to 1884 the administration of the Somali Coast had been in the hands of the Egyptian Government. Upon its collapse in 1884 a Protectorate was proclaimed by Great Britain over what is now recognised as British Somaliland, and the boundaries were settled by agreements with France, Italy, and Abyssinia. Until 1898 the Protectorate was administered by the Resident at Aden as a Dependency of the Government of India. In that year it was transferred to the charge of the Foreign Office, and on 1st April, 1905, to the Colonial Office.

From 1901 to 1920 the history of the Protectorate is largely a history of campaigns against Mohammed-bin-Abdulla Hassan, the "Mad Mullah." In 1901, 1902 and 1903, expeditions were sent against the Mullah, and in January, 1904, a crushing defeat was inflicted on him at Jidballeh. He then retired into Italian territory and claimed Italian protection. An agreement was made between him and the Italian Government, but the Mullah soon disregarded this agreement and commenced further aggressive actions against the tribes under British protection.

In 1908, arrangements were made for another expedition against him, but before the expedition was launched a policy of coastal concentration was adopted. In March, 1910, all troops were withdrawn from the country, except for small garrisons at the three

ports of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeilah. This policy did not prove a success, and in 1912-13 the strict coastal concentration was abandoned and administration in the interior gradually resumed. From 1914, desultory fighting continued until 1920, when a combined attack with land and air forces completely scattered the Mullah and his followers and captured all his forts and possessions. The Mullah fled, a broken man, into Abyssinia, where he died in February, 1921.

In recent years, conditions have been peaceful with the exception of inter-tribal cattle raids both in the Protectorate and outside its borders. As indulgence in these is the hereditary pastime of all Somalis, both British-protected and otherwise, they need not be regarded very seriously, as they can be checked, and are being checked, by extension of administration.

Geography.

The Protectorate of British Somaliland has for its northern boundary about 450 miles of coast-line on the Gulf of Aden and extends from Loyi Ada (Hadu), longitude 43° 15′ East, as far as the forty-ninth degree of East longitude close to the town of Banda Ziada.

The Protectorate marches with Italian Somaliland from Banda Ziada to a point in latitude 8° North; thence with Abyssinia as far as Jalelo, and with French Somaliland from Jalelo to Loyi Ada on the coast.

The area of the Protectorate is about 68,000 square miles. It consists of a coastal plain varying from half a mile to 60 miles in depth, an escarpment precipitous at the eastern end, more gentle in the west, rising to 5,000 feet-7,000 feet, and an interior plateau sloping gently south and east to Italian Somaliland and the Abyssinian Haud. The coastal plain is hot and the rainfall as a rule is sparse. The escarpment catches the rain and on the summit are to be found areas of cedar forest. The interior plateau consists in the main of level, bush-covered country interspersed with rocky kopjes or even small detached masses of hills and with large open plains free from bush and covered with grass. The country is primarily camel country owing to the scanty water-supply, but cattle thrive, especially in the hills, and sheep and goats also do excellently so long as the rainfall is up to the average.

The chief ports are Berbera, Bulhar, Zeilah, and Las Khoreh. There is a weekly steamer service from Aden.

Currency.

The monetary unit is the Government of India rupee and subsidiary coinage consisting of 1 pie, 1 pice, 1, 2, 4, and 8 anna pieces. Government of India currency notes are in circulation.

The rate of exchange with London during the year was approximately 1s. 6d. to the rupee, any variations from this rate being nominal.

The estimated value of the currency in circulation at the close of the year was :—

	Rupees.
Indian coins	9,00,000
Indian notes	3,00,000

New pattern currency notes of Rs.10 and Rs.100 were in circulation during the year.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial standard of weights and measures is in force with the addition of the " maund " (equal to 28 lb.) which is used by the Indian traders.

Language.

The language is Somali, but the natives are capable linguists and Arabic and Hindustani are spoken in the coast towns.

I.—GENERAL.

The political situation in the eastern area of the Protectorate caused some anxiety during 1927.

Early in the year a section of the recalcitrant Italian subject tribes, to which reference was made in the last report, crossed with their Sultan into British territory.

The Sultan surrendered to the British Government and, pending negotiations with the Italian Government, obtained permission for his people to remain in this Protectorate, on guarantee of their good behaviour, while he himself proceeded to Berbera. But his eldest surviving son, who was the fighting leader of the tribe, remained at large for some months in the eastern area and with an armed band of some 500 men formed a serious menace to the peace of the Protectorate.

Towards the end of the year the situation became easier, for the Sultan, finding that he was losing control of his people, decided to give himself up to the Italian Government. With his surrender, the majority of his people returned to Italian Somaliland, and his eldest son, losing his following, retreated into Abyssinia.

2. A most regrettable incident, in which the Abyssinian Government were concerned, occurred in June.

For some reason which has never been explained, a British Somali caravan which had been engaged by His Highness the Maharao of Cutch for a shooting trip in Abyssinia was looted in Abyssinia by Abyssinian soldiers, and several British Somalis were killed. An international tribunal investigated the case at Harar

and compensation was awarded to His Highness and to the Government of Somaliland. The Abyssinian authority responsible was removed from the post of Governor of Jig Jiga, and the compensation awarded by the tribunal was fully paid by the Abyssinian Government.

With a view to an attempt to find a solution of the border troubles on the British Somaliland-Abyssinian frontier, an administrative officer from the staff of the Protectorate has been temporarily seconded for service as Vice-Consul at Jig Jiga, a town in Abyssinia about forty miles from the frontier. This officer will be able to protect the interests of tribes claiming British protection who have prescriptive grazing rights in Abyssinia.

3. The rains in the early part of the year were poor and in the latter part failed completely. By the end of the year the whole country was in the grip of a disastrous drought the full effects of which do not properly form a subject for this year's report.

II.—FINANCE.

4. Two important changes have occurred relative to the conduct of the finance of the Protectorate during the year. The rate of exchange has been stabilised at 1s. 6d. to the rupee to accord with the Government of India rate, and the financial year has been changed so as to coincide with the calendar year.

The financial period under review will therefore be in respect of nine months only (i.e., 1st April to 31st December, 1927), and, owing to the change in the sterling value of the rupee from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d., a portion of the accounts of the Protectorate are expressed in rupees, so as to facilitate comparison with the figures for the previous year.

Revenue.

5. The revenue of the Protectorate for the nine months of 1927 amounted to Rs.11,85,056 (£88,879), an increase of Rs.3,00,835 (£22,563) as compared with the corresponding period for 1926. The principal sources of revenue were :—

Customs ...	Rs. 9,29,544 (£69,716) an increase of	Rs. 258,474 (£19,385)	over the corresponding period for 1926.
Licences, Excise, etc.	Rs. 1,78,225 (£13,367) „ „ „	Rs. 35,960 (£2,697)	do.
Fees of Court or Office.	Rs. 53,522 (£4,014) „ „ „	Rs. 11,223 (£842)	do.
Posts and Telegraphs.	Rs. 15,659 (£1,174) a decrease of	Rs. 502 (£37)	do.

This large increase in Customs would be very satisfactory if it could be regarded definitely as a true indication of better trade conditions. But it is probable that part of this increase is due

to the failure of the rains and to the fear by the natives of the drought which is to come.

The increase under Licences and Excise is chiefly accounted for by increased receipts under Zariba dues which are in the nature of additional Customs dues and consequently fluctuate in accordance with the Customs receipts.

The revenue of the Protectorate for the last five years is as follows :—

	£	
1922-23	82,316	
1923-24	78,542	
1924-25	82,608	
1925-26	89,057	
1926-27	90,569	
April to December, 1926	58,941	(= Rs.8,84,221 at 1s. 4d.)
April to December, 1927	88,879	(= Rs.11,85,056 at 1s. 6d.)

Public Debt.

6. The Protectorate debt due to the Imperial Treasury on the 31st of December, 1927, amounts to £128,750.

This sum represents the Loan-in-Aid of civil expenditure for the financial years 1921-22, 1924-25, and for the nine months of the year 1927. The Loan-in-Aid actually received in 1927 was £15,750.

During the years 1925-26 and 1926-27 the deficiency between revenue and civil expenditure was met from surplus balances.

The Loan-in-Aid is free of interest, but is subject to repayment (without interest) as and when the finances of the Protectorate permit. No repayment has yet been made.

In addition to the Loans, the Protectorate is in receipt of an annual free Grant-in-Aid of actual military expenditure. The grant received in respect of 1927 was £43,500. The total granted since the 1st of April, 1921, is £360,500.

Expenditure.

7. The total expenditure for the nine months of 1927 is Rs.16,45,970 (£123,448), showing an increase of Rs.1,23,377 (£9,253) over the corresponding period of the previous year.

The expenditure of the Protectorate in respect of the last five years is as follows :—

	Civil.	*Military.*	*Total.*	
	£	£	£	
1922–23	94,754	160,592	255,346	
1923–24	95,002	49,382	144,384	
1924–25	102,351	48,213	150,564	
1925–26	103,288	64,667	167,955	
1926–27	100,175	48,950	149,125	
April to December, 1926.	—	—	101,506	=Rs. 15,22,593 at 1s. 4d.
April to December, 1927.	85,497	37,951	123,448	=Rs. 16,45,970 at 1s. 6d.

Financial Position on 31st December, 1927.

8. The abstract of revenue and expenditure is as follows :—

		£
Balance on hand, 1st April, 1927		27,360
Revenue		88,879
Free Grant-in-Aid to cover military expenditure		43,500
Loan-in-Aid to cover civil expenditure ...		15,750
		£175,489
Expenditure.	£	
Civil	85,497	
Military	37,951	
		123,448
Balance on hand on 31st December, 1927		52,041
		£175,489

Banking.

9. There are no Banks established in the Protectorate, but a branch of the commercial firm of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, Bombay, accept deposits from private individuals, cash cheques drawn against them, and arrange for the transfer of funds to the United Kingdom and elsewhere through a branch of the firm in Aden.

There are no banking laws in force.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

10. The Agricultural Department has not yet been established long enough to enable statistics to be collected of production under this head, but the heavy decrease in the import of jowari into the country shows that production has increased.

Efforts have been specially directed this year towards improving the jowari (sorghum) crop which is already known to the Somali. Investigations of samples of the different varieties of locally-grown sorghum tend to show that all are allied to the type called Milo in the American Nomenclature. This information is of value in regard to the selection of the best kind of new seed for import and the question of the cross fertilisation of existing varieties.

Demonstrations have been given in numerous plots of the proper method of seed selection and of the most suitable quantities of seed to plant and the best methods of harvesting. Certain selected

native cultivators have agreed to reserve their gardens for trial of new seed after proper cultivation. These demonstrations were given with a light strong type of plough and harrow, and sufficient interest was aroused to justify the purchase by Government of twelve ploughs, etc., of a proved type. All have been sold to natives who are now using them almost entirely independently of Government assistance. Indeed, the demand for new implements of a similar nature fully justifies the purchase by Government of a further supply.

The sowing season begins in March, and so the results of the improved methods cannot be ascertained until the end of 1928.

An experimental plot of about four acres has been prepared for the trial of new types of crops which it is desirable to introduce with a view to obtaining a simple rotation of crops. The new types to be tried include sim-sim, gram, and groundnuts, of which the most important is gram.

A small tree nursery and an orchard of about an acre in extent has been started, and next year it is proposed to introduce from Australia valuable types of fruit trees which have never been tried in the Protectorate.

Investigations are being made in the growth of lucerne and certain varieties of drought-resisting grasses. On the coast at Berbera and Bulhar sand-fixing grasses have been sown. Although this grass is difficult to raise from seed, the results so far have been encouraging.

Veterinary.

11. Veterinary service is on a modest scale, as the Department consists only of one officer with some native assistants. His work is mainly the control of outbreaks of disease among the native cattle. During the latter part of the year, there occurred a severe epidemic of rinderpest which came in from Abyssinia, where it is endemic. Efforts were made to control it by the purchase of serum from Kenya, but the efforts were wasted as the drought killed off the cattle as effectively as would have done the rinderpest.

A sheep-dip was constructed at Hargeisa during the year and the natives are being taught the advantage of dipping their sheep. Their enthusiasm at the commencement was tepid, but, as the service is free at present, it is hoped that the proved results may fan their enthusiasm to the point of acquiescence in paying for the service later.

Fisheries.

12. The sea on the coast-line of the Protectorate is well stocked with fish of all kinds and several applications for fishing concessions have been received during the last few years.

There is a native pearl fishery at Zeilah. The divers run their own boats and sell the pearls to Jew merchants in Jibuti in French Somaliland and in Aden. The local conditions would make it very difficult for a European firm to compete in this industry.

Minerals.

13. In September, active operations were undertaken by the syndicate holding the concession for mica in the area of the Mirso plateau south of Berbera.

Numerous prospects have been opened out along the strike of the mica dykes, and shafts up to 40 feet have been sunk. In all of the dykes, except one, the proportion of mica of good quality has been found to be too small to justify further work at the moment. In one dyke, containing leaders or veins of mica of an excellent quality known as ruby, work is being continued but, although books of considerable size have been obtained from this dyke, up to the present the proportion of mineral combining both the desired sizes and good quality has not proved to be very satisfactory.

The Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Company and the Anglo-Egyptian Petroleum Company have taken up a concession for the investigation of the oil resources of the Protectorate, with particular reference to the known oil-field at Dagah Shabel, and for this purpose the British Somaliland Petroleum Company has been formed. Work is expected to commence in September, 1928.

14. Applications have been received for concessions to establish a salt industry at Zeilah.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

15. Trade has been excellent during the period under review, and the tendency in the country towards greater prosperity which appeared during the last few years continued during the first half of the year at any rate. The increased import of Manchester cloth and sugar, both of which may be regarded as articles of luxury, bears this out. On the other hand, the drought, which began to take effect in the latter half of the year, stimulated the import of rice and dates to take the place of the milk and meat on which the population chiefly relies for food. The purchase of these commodities has been made from reserves of cash which must be regarded as potential capital. The real capital wealth of the population consists solely of stock, and the moment the drought becomes sufficiently severe to affect the breeding stock and to accelerate the sale of surplus stock, the capital of the country is reduced. There is very little doubt that the effect of the drought, while not being yet apparent in the trade returns, will be plainly seen in the next few years.

Sea Customs.

16. The value of the sea-borne trade of the Protectorate during the year 1927 was Rs.106,10,783, as compared with Rs.81,48,360 in 1926. The following comparative table shows the value of the imports and exports, excluding specie, during the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.* Rs.	*Exports.* Rs.	*Total.* Rs.
1923...	48,55,455	32,92,710	81,78,165
1924...	50,03,100	34,17,180	84,20,280
1925...	53,65,455	36,40,830	90,06,285
1926...	44,59,650	36,88,710	81,48,360
1927*	57,21,663*	48,89,120*	106,10,783*

* For twelve months.

Imports.

17. The import trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.1,59,322, was distributed in the following proportions amongst the four Protectorate ports :—

Ports.	*Amount in Rs.*	*Percentage.*				
		1927.	*1926.*	*1925.*	*1924.*	*1923.*
Berbera ...	35,25,294	61·6	58·8	57·5	65·7	67·6
Bulhar ...	*1,88,688*	*3·3*	*5·3*	*6·9*	*4·5*	*7·7*
Zeilah... ...	18,36,250	32·1	32·8	32·8	27·7	21·5
Makhir Coast...	1,71,431	3	3·1	2·8	2·1	3·2

The following were the principal articles of import showing the countries of origin :—

Article.	*Country of Origin.*	*Unit.*	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*	*1924.*	*1923.*
American Grey Sheeting.	America via Aden.	Yds.	1,800	166,440	301,530	118,290	1,238,270
China Grey Sheeting.	China via Aden.	„	6,300	32,300	nil	nil	nil
Japan Grey Sheeting.	Japan via Aden.	„	3,151,960	2,466,010	2,857,110	2,587,245	934,310
European white Long Cloth	Manchester via Aden.	„	1,990,723	1,399,902	927,226	849,025	690,074
Dates ...	Persian Gulf	Cwt.	46,358	47,761	38,280	62,181	41,014
Rice ...	India via Aden.	„	100,515	56,259	91,971	58,251	84,790
Sugar ...	Java and Mauritius via Aden.	„	49,302	31,762	33,966	20,210	15,640

It is satisfactory to be able to record a steady increase in the import of long cloth from Manchester, but it should be explained that for everyday wear the natives prefer grey sheeting, and this appears to be a commodity in which British firms are unable to compete.

It is interesting to note how completely the Japanese grey sheeting has replaced the American article.

Mention might be made of the possibility of a substantial increase in the import of hardware, which has begun to take the place of locally-made utensils.

Natives now use enamel bowls as milk containers and a large type of tin basin is becoming popular as a watering trough in preference to the skin contrivance which has been in general use.

Such hardware as is now imported is manufactured in Czecho-slovakia, for the native considers first the price and not the quality of the article.

Reference has been made in previous reports to the use of British cars in this country. The number of imported British cars has increased from two to seven this year, but the market is so far confined to Government officials. When the Government has begun to use British-made commercial vehicles instead of the one-ton Ford truck, the local traders will perhaps wish to follow the example, and, if suitable British cars *and spares* can then be obtained from Aden, the Protectorate should possess a small market which would be capable of considerable development. It is of interest to note in this connection that the Alexandria branch of the American firm of General Motors, Ltd., are taking an interest in Somaliland and have already made endeavours to establish the Chevrolet here in place of the Ford.

Exports.

18. The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.28,487, amounted to Rs.48,89,120 and was distributed in the following proportions amongst the Protectorate ports :—

Port.	*Amount in Rs.*	*Percentage.*				
		1927.	*1926.*	*1925.*	*1924.*	*1923.*
Berbera ...	26,88,154	54·9	56·0	58·8	57·3	54·5
Bulhar... ...	3,36,880	6·9	9·4	8·2	8·7	10·3
Zeilah	15,57,980	31·9	28·3	29·0	30·5	31·0
Makhir Coast...	3,06,106	6·3	6·3	4·0	3·5	4·2

The following were the principal indigenous products, showing the country of destination to which they were exported :—

Article.	*Country of destination.*	*Unit.*	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*	*1924.*	*1923.*
Bullocks	Aden	Numbers	1,340	1,008	789	881	1,167
Sheep and Goats.	Mostly to Aden. An increasing number to Egypt. A few goats to Colombo and Singapore.	Numbers	120,123	126,280	97,492	93,872	79,509
Sheep and Goats' skins.	America and Europe via Aden.	Numbers	1,754,548	1,066,702	1,302,302	1,008,859	755,930
Hides.	do.	Cwt.	130	181	653	17	126
Gums and Resins.	Europe, India via Aden.	Cwt.	5,047	6,766	5,227	5,563	4,127
Ghee.	Aden.	Cwt.	4,938	3,693	2,761	8,986	8,796

The large increase in the export of sheep and goats' skins may be partly due to the failure of the rains at the end of this year, as has been previously explained, and partly to the increased interest taken by the natives in the sheep as a trading medium. It has been observed in one of the largest districts that the natives there no longer regard the camel as the most important investment but are concentrating on sheep.

The export of gum is capable of development.

The majority of the gum is exported from the Erigavo District, which is in the eastern part of the Protectorate. It is collected by the natives in the most primitive way, and the facilities for shipping from the coast are not good.

The Agricultural Department is now fully occupied with the agricultural areas in the west of the Protectorate, but at some later date the Department may be able to turn its attention to teaching the natives better methods of collection and grading of the gums. It is of interest to note that at the request of one of the largest British manufacturers of confectionery a sample of the gum from Erigavo was sent to England this year.

Land Customs.

19. The following are the statistics for the land Customs station at Zeilah during the last five years :—

Imports.

Item.	*Unit.*	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*	*1924.**	*1923.**
Millet (Sorghum)	Cwt.	661	955	1,417	4,196	15,644

Exports.

Cattle	Number	934	827	945	No record kept	
Sheep and Goats	Number	7,421	4,905	5,901	No record kept	
Salt	Cwt.	15,903	19,089	20,988	26,061	34,314

* Included station at Buramo which was closed in 1925.

The large decrease in the import of millet is due to the increase of cultivation in the western area of the Protectorate.

Transit Trade.

20. Customs duty at the rate of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* is levied on all merchandise in transit between the Protectorate and Abyssinia. As will be seen from the comparative figures given below, this concession has succeeded in creating a substantial transit trade across the frontier, despite the fact that merchants using the Port of Zeilah have to employ camel transport in competition with the Franco-Ethiopian railway at Jibuti :—

	1927.	*1926.*	*1925.*	*1924.*	*1923.*
Value of Transit Trade	Rs. 14,63,849	9,00,783	7,40,455	5,02,367	2,49,693

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

21. The following is a comparative table of the steam and country craft shipping which entered and cleared from the Protectorate Ports during the past five years : —

	1927.		*1926.*		*1925.*		*1924.*		*1923.*	
	No.	*Tons.*	*No.*	*Tons.*	*No.*	*Tons.*	*No.*	*Tons.*	*No.*	*Tons.*
Entered	666	51,682	504	39,920	560	38,420	528	33,112	696	33,502
Cleared	651	50,861	511	40,870	579	37,966	523	32,588	693	32,640

Roads.

22. The road from Berbera to Hargeisa, to which reference was made in the last report, has now been completed. It is a well-graded road 110 miles in length and forms the easiest avenue of approach to the high plateau of the interior. It is suitable for cars and light lorries, and the surface is sufficiently good to allow the journey to be accomplished in under four hours, though this pace is not recommended.

There are 850 miles of cleared tracks, suitable for motor transport, in the country.

Posts and Telegraphs.

23. The revenue and expenditure of the Post and Telegraph Department in respect of the last five years is as follows :—

	1927. (nine months)	*1926–27.*	*1925–26.*	*1924–25.*	*1923–24.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue	1,174	1,452	1,136	1,196	1,308
Expenditure ...	5,654	7,447	6,695	6,680	4,865

The weekly mail service from Aden has been carried on throughout the year by Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers' steamers. Application for a mail contract has been made by another firm

whose vessels have been calling regularly during the latter part of the year.

Mails are distributed by motor-car once a week to all the stations in the Protectorate except to Erigavo, Bulhar, and Zeilah, to which stations a weekly service by runners is maintained.

Telegraphs.

24. Wireless stations (1½ Kilowatt) are in operation at Berbera, Burao, Hargeisa, Zeilah, and Erigavo, and a new station is about to be erected at Buramo.

The British official wireless news service is received and circulated throughout the Protectorate.

The wireless telegraph station at Berbera has been rebuilt during the year under review and an installation of an up-to-date type installed.

There is an air-line from Berbera to Burao via Sheikh (86 miles), which is used for telegraph and telephone communications.

The telegraph charges are :—

6 annas per word from any Protectorate station to Aden.
2 annas per word to any station within the Protectorate.
Rs.1-14-0* per word to the United Kingdom.
Rs.1- 6-0* per word to India.

*Half this rate is charged for deferred telegrams.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

25. The Law of the Protectorate is :—

(*a*) Coded Law, i.e., the Indian Penal Code as applied by the "Somaliland Administration of Criminal Justice Ordinance, 1926," and local Ordinances.

(*b*) Tribal Custom based on Mohammedan Law.

A much stricter legal control is now exercised. In past years, murder and homicide among the natives have been dealt with under tribal custom, but such crimes are now tried by the Criminal Courts. The death penalty has been exacted in one particularly brutal case, and there is evidence that the natives are beginning to regard the taking of life more seriously.

Police.

26. The establishment of the Police Force on the 31st of December, 1927, was as follows : —

1 Commandant ;
1 Assistant Commandant (who is also Director of Prisons) ;

1 Pay and Quartermaster;
525 Rank and File;

who were distributed as follows:—

Berbera District	...	3 officers and 195 rank and file.
Burao District	... ...	50 rank and file.
Hargeisa District	... ...	75 rank and file.
Erigavo District	... ...	100 rank and file.
Zeilah District	... ...	105 rank and file.

The administration of the Force is carried on from Berbera, and the rank and file in the other stations are directly under the orders of the Commissioners in charge of the Districts.

Prisons.

27. There are two classes of prisons in the Protectorate: the Central Prison in Berbera, where prisoners under sentence of terms of more than six months are confined; and local prisons at Zeilah, Burao, Hargeisa, Erigavo and Buramo.

The Central Prison is administered by the Assistant Commandant of Police, who is styled the Director of Prisons; the local prisons are under the direct control of the Commissioners in charge of the Districts. The Assistant Commandant has a staff of one Superintendent and 48 warders and one female warder, at Berbera.

Convicts under long sentence are afforded a certain amount of liberty within the walls of the prison and are taught useful industries, such as tailoring, spinning, weaving, gardening, rope-making, and caning and repairing chairs, and basket or leather work. Convicts under short sentences are employed on public works, such as quarrying, road-making, etc.

Well-behaved prisoners under sentence of one year are able to earn remission of one-sixth of their sentence, and those who are sentenced to more than one year can earn a remission of one-quarter of their sentence.

VII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

28. The Protectorate has been added to the list of British Colonial Administrations which adhere to the International Sanitary Convention of 1926.

An isolation hospital for lepers was completed in Berbera at the beginning of the year.

The construction of a lunatic asylum in Berbera is under consideration.

29. The Medical Department undertake the collection of meteorological statistics, which are as follows :—

Station.	*Total Rainfall.*	*Absolute Maximum Temperature.*	*Absolute Minimum Temperature.*	*Mean Maximum.*	*Mean Minimum.*	*Total Rainfall.*			
						1926.	*1925.*	*1924.*	*1923.*
	Inches	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Berbera ...	2·02	110	61	92·5	77·0	6·54	0·56	0·98	2·86
Burao ...	9·78	92	48	84·3	63·7	12·30	11·89	8·96	9·90
Sheikh ...	11·70	96	34	83·5	55·3	27·38	20·59	23·51	47·14
Hargeisa ...	14·58	94	33	84·3	55·9	31·91	16·39	18·06	16·86
Zeilah ...	8·42	118	60	94·8	75·2	10·81	2·04	0·56	not recorded
Buramo ...	19·79	93	34	84·2	54·9	27·79	23·24	9·58*	do.
Erigavo ...	15·29	92	26	80·9	42·0	18·34	12·62	not recorded	do.

* Six months only.

These statistics do not seem to bear out the references to an abnormal drought which appear in other parts of this Report, but it must be remembered that in this sandy country it is less the gross amount of rainfall which counts than its distribution over a reasonable number of days.

VIII.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

30. All land in the Protectorate except in proclaimed townships may be said to be vested in the Somali tribe. Outside the townships no individual title to land is recognised (except in the case of a few small religious settlements) nor is any sectional title to any particular area recognised as giving any particular section of the tribe an exclusive right to that area. It is the habit of certain sections always to graze in the same area and this in practice gives them a prescriptive title to that area, but theoretically and legally individuals of other sections have the right to enter such areas and use the grazing as necessity dictates. In the western part of the Protectorate, where large areas of ground are under cultivation, the tribal title has been restricted to the extent that the right of individual cultivators to the enjoyment of the area cultivated is recognised, but only so long as effective cultivation is continued.

During the past year, Government has taken powers to expropriate land for public purposes, on payment of compensation for damage done thereby to an individual or section. Land so expropriated becomes Crown land.

The township areas are divided into two classes :—

(*a*) Old-established towns on the coast, such as Berbera and Zeilah ; and

(*b*) Recently-established towns in the interior.

In class (*a*) freehold right to the land could presumably be established by the present owners. Actually, there are no valid deeds of ownership, and the provision of such deeds would entail such heavy work of investigation that the matter has been allowed to remain undefined. In practice, disputes as to ownership seldom arise.

In class (*b*), Government has during the last year introduced legislation to give to individuals a valid title to ground. All townships are of such recent growth that, except in five small plots in Hargeisa, no claim to freehold has been established, and leases or temporary occupation licences have been given to such of the present occupiers as wish to secure a legal title to their land.

IX.—LABOUR.

31. The Somali has proved himself to be an intelligent and willing worker if properly led. Government has usually been able to obtain labour at a reasonable cost, but hitherto there has been little or no chance of testing the Somali under private employ.

It has been considered necessary to regularise the terms of contract between private employers and local labour, and this year a Masters and Servants Ordinance, modelled on the lines of the legislation in force in Nigeria, together with an Employer's Liability Ordinance, have been enacted.

The export from the Protcctorate of unskilled labour is governed by law and is subject to stringent conditions.

W. L. HEAPE.
Assistant Secretary to the Government.

THE SECRETARIAT,
BRITISH SOMALILAND,
30th April, 1928.

(2338—21) Wt. 6622—437 625 8/28. H. St. G. 7/8.

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SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1928.

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SOMALILAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1928.

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History.

Prior to 1884 the administration of the Somali Coast had been in the hands of the Egyptian Government. Upon its collapse in 1884, a Protectorate was proclaimed by Great Britain over what is now recognised as British Somaliland, and the boundaries were settled by agreements with France, Italy, and Abyssinia. Until 1898 the Protectorate was administered by the Resident at Aden as a Dependency of the Government of India. In that year it was transferred to the charge of the Foreign Office, and on 1st April, 1905, to the Colonial Office.

From 1901 to 1920 the history of the Protectorate is largely a history of campaigns against Mohammed-bin-Abdulla Hassan, the "Mad Mullah." In 1901, 1902, and 1903, expeditions were sent against the Mullah, and in January, 1904, a crushing defeat was inflicted on him at Jidballeh. He then retired into Italian territory and claimed Italian protection. An agreement was made between him and the Italian Government, but the Mullah soon disregarded this agreement and commenced further aggressive actions against the tribes under British protection.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

In 1908, arrangements were made for another expedition against him, but before the expedition was launched a policy of coastal concentration was adopted. In March, 1910, all troops were withdrawn from the country, except for small garrisons at the three ports of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeilah. This policy did not prove a success, and in 1912–13 the strict coastal concentration was abandoned and administration in the interior gradually resumed. From 1914, desultory fighting continued until 1920, when a combined attack with land and air forces completely scattered the Mullah and his followers and captured all his forts and possessions. The Mullah fled, a broken man, into Abyssinia, where he died in February, 1921.

In recent years, conditions have been peaceful with the exception of inter-tribal cattle raids both in the Protectorate and outside its borders. As indulgence in these is the hereditary pastime of all Somalis, both British-protected and otherwise, they need not be regarded very seriously, as they can be checked, and are being checked, by extension of administration.

Geography.

The Protectorate of British Somaliland has for its northern boundary about 450 miles of coast-line on the Gulf of Aden and extends from Loyi Ada (Hadu), longitude 43° 15′ East, as far as the forty-ninth degree of East longitude, close to the town of Banda Ziada.

The Protectorate marches with Italian Somaliland from Banda Ziada to a point in latitude 8° North ; thence with Abyssinia as far as Jalelo, and with French Somaliland from Jalelo to Loyi Ada on the coast.

The area of the Protectorate is about 68,000 square miles. It consists of a coastal plain varying from half a mile to 60 miles in depth, an escarpment precipitous at the eastern end, more gentle in the west, rising to 5,000 feet to 7,000 feet, and an interior plateau sloping gently south and east to Italian Somaliland and the Abyssinian Haud. The coastal plain is hot and the rainfall as a rule is sparse. The escarpment catches the rain and on the summit are to be found areas of cedar forest. The interior plateau consists in the main of level, bush-covered country interspersed with kopjes or even small detached masses of hills and with large open plains free from bush and covered with grass. The country is primarily camel country owing to the scanty water supply, but cattle thrive, especially in the hills, and sheep and goats also do excellently so long as the rainfall is up to the average.

The chief ports are Berbera, Bulhar, Zeilah, and Las Khoreh.

There is a weekly steamer service from Aden.

Climate.

Somaliland has a small but fairly regular rainfall. The dry season lasts from December to March, during which period there is practically no rain. The big rains fall during April and May and they are succeeded by the S.W. monsoon (called locally the *kharif*), which blows from June till October—the hottest period of the year. The *kharif* is very trying to Europeans, particularly on the coast, where the heat and dust make concentrated work difficult.

On the higher ground in the interior the heat is at no time intolerable and the nights are generally cool.

From November to March the climate is quite pleasant, the heat on the coast being tempered by the sea breeze.

The rainfalls in the country are very local and consequently there is often considerable variation in local conditions as to grazing, rainpools, etc.

The Medical Department undertake the collection of meteorological statistics, and these are as follows :—

Station.	*Total Rainfall.*	*Mean Maximum.*	*Mean Minimum.*	*Absolute Maximum Temperature.*	*Absolute Minimum Temperature.*	*Total Rainfall.*			
						1927.	*1926.*	*1925.*	*1924.*
	Inches	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Berbera ...	1·09	92·9	78·0	111	60	2·02	6·54	0·54	0·98
Burao ...	9·07	84·8	63·5	94	50	9·78	12·30	11·89	8·96
Sheikh ...	19·90	78·6	54·0	91	39	11·70	27·38	20·59	23·51
Hargeisa ...	12·45	86·1	56·4	95	32	14·58	31·91	16·39	18·06
Zeilah ...	3·08	93·9	74·9	112	60	8·42	10·81	2·04	0·56
Buramo ...	15·99	84·1	45·1	95	25	19·79	27·79	23·24	9·58*
Erigavo ...	10·50	78·6	48·9	87	26	15·29	18·34	12·62	not recorded

* Six months only.

Currency.

The monetary unit is the Government of India rupee and subsidiary coinage, consisting of 1 pie, 1 pice, 1, 2, 4, and 8 anna pieces. Government of India currency notes are in circulation.

The rupee maintained throughout the year the Government of India stabilised rate of 1*s.* 6*d.* with but insignificant variations, so that trade tended to become more settled and prices of commodities obtained from Europe for local consumption to remain steady.

Sufficient silver coinage was available locally without recourse to importation from Aden.

The estimated volume of currency in circulation at the close of the year was :—

Indian coins ... ... Rs. 9,00,000.
Indian notes ... ... Rs. 3,00,000.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial standard of weights and measures is in force. The Indian and Somali traders also use certain of the weights and measures in force in British India.

Language.

The language is Somali, but the natives are capable linguists, and English, Arabic, and Hindustani are spoken in the coastal towns.

I.—GENERAL.

The Protectorate is administered by the Governor and in his absence by the Secretary to the Government. There is no Executive or Legislative Council. The powers of the Governor are defined in the Somaliland Order in Council, 1899, as amended by subsequent Orders in Council.

Departments of Government.

2. The Departments of Government whose headquarters are at Berbera are those dealing with Finance, Police and Prisons, Medical services, Customs, Posts and Telegraphs, and Public Works. The headquarters of the Veterinary Department are at Burao, and those of the Geological and Agricultural Department are at Hargeisa, where they are nearer the centre of their respective activities.

Military Garrison.

3. The Military Garrison of the Protectorate consists of the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, with headquarters at Burao and a detachment at Hargeisa.

Two aeroplanes of the Aden Squadron, Royal Air Force, are stationed in Somaliland. Aerodromes are maintained at Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, Hargeisa, Buramo, Zeilah, Las Khoreh, and Erigavo; and landing grounds at El Afweina, El-Dur-Elan, Bohotleh, Ainabo, Barran, Adadleh, Oadweina, Hudin, and Aik.

District Administration.

4. For administrative purposes the Protectorate has been divided into five districts each of which is in charge of a Commissioner. The five districts are :—

Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, and Zeilah.

Political Situation.

5. The attitude of the tribes during the year has not caused any serious anxiety. There was no outstanding inter-tribal incident, though several stock-raiding loots, without which no Somali year

would be complete, were reported. The Ogaden tribe were responsible for several of these loots, which were mainly directed against the Habr Yunis and Habr Awal. The situation in the Abyssinian Ogaden country, and the frequency of raids emanating from there, have caused some anxiety.

6. A more serious cause for perturbation has been (and is at the time of writing) the situation on the Italian frontier. Under the Protocol of 1894, the northern and major portion of the boundary is the 49th meridian. This line, which is nowhere marked on the ground, cuts through the grazing grounds of some of the British-protected Somalis. Both British and Italian tribes have traditional and prescriptive grazing rights over areas on both sides of the boundary, but the Italian Government have found themselves compelled to refuse to British tribes the right to enter Italian territory. This restriction on their old grazing rights has caused much alarm and irritation to British tribes. An endeavour is being made to find a solution of the difficulty by negotiation.

The situation on the border is made still more difficult by our ignorance of the exact position of the 49th meridian. The demarcation of this is shortly to be carried out by a joint Anglo-Italian Boundary Commission and this should tend to facilitate administration on the frontier.

Abyssinia.

7. In September the Governor visited Addis Ababa, at the invitation of Ras Tafari, to attend the latter's coronation as "His Majesty King Tafari Makonnen, Heir to the throne of Ethiopia and Regent Plenipotentiary."

8. A meeting was held in September at Dagahbur in Abyssinia between representatives of the Protectorate and Abyssinian Governments with the object of putting an end to serious inter-tribal fighting which for months past had been occurring between the British Isaak Somalis and the Abyssinian Ogaden Somalis. Many representatives of both tribes attended the meeting, and eventually a peace was concluded on the basis of a mutual cancellation of all claims. Fresh looting between the tribes, however, unfortunately broke out before the end of the year.

Anglo-Italian Boundary.

9. Negotiations between His Majesty's Government and the Italian Government had been in progress for some time prior to 1928 regarding the demarcation of the boundary between British Somaliland and Italian Somaliland, and these have recently resulted in the constitution of a formal Anglo-Italian Boundary Commission to delimit the boundary line. The Commission will, it is anticipated, begin work in September, 1929. Towards the end of 1928 two British Army officers were placed at the disposal of the Somaliland Government by the War Office for the purpose of locating upon

the ground the 49th meridian which forms the boundary. Their work is a preliminary to that of the Boundary Commission.

Drought.

10. As foreshadowed in the corresponding section of the previous report, the year 1928 inherited the legacy of famine and destitution left by the disastrous drought of the previous year. The full tale would make melancholy reading; a gleam of hope, however, is afforded by the fact that the autumn rains were good and indicated a prospect of a moderately favourable winter for the stock remaining in the country. The most serious aspect, so far as the prosperity of the Protectorate is concerned, is the loss of sheep and goats, the capital wealth of the population, of which it is estimated that 80 per cent. have died. While camels did not suffer so severely in actual deaths, their efficiency as animals of burden was impaired by weakness due to starvation. Active measures were necessary for the relief of the many people rendered destitute. This eventually took the form of a central relief camp at Bulhar, to which destitutes from all parts of the country were sent, being fed and housed at Government expense. By the end of the year the camp contained the following numbers :—

Men	484
Women	1,596
Children...	2,089

II.—FINANCE.

Revenue.

11. The revenue of the Protectorate for the year amounted to Rs. 20,99,831 (£157,487) an increase of Rs. 4,40,467 (£33,035) as compared with the revenue brought to account during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1927. The principal sources of revenue were :—

Customs Rs. 16,24,996 (£121,875) an increase of Rs. 3,60,171 (£27,013).

Licences, Excise, etc., Rs. 2,95,341 (£22,151) an increase of Rs. 42,477 (£3,186).

Fees of Court, etc., Rs. 1,01,826 (£7,637) an increase of Rs. 28,022 (£2,102).

Posts and Telegraphs, Rs. 31,465 (£2,360) an increase of Rs. 10,186 (£764).

Revenue from Government Property, £783.

12. The increase in Customs receipt is due to the large number of sheep and goat skins exported as a result of the drought which continued throughout the greater part of the year and seriously depleted the live stock in the Protectorate to such an extent that a

return to normal conditions may take several years. Also, large quantities of foodstuffs were imported for consumption by the native population.

The increase under Licences, Excise, etc., is chiefly accounted for by increased receipts under Zariba dues, which are in the nature of additional Customs dues and consequently fluctuate in accordance with the Customs receipts.

£2,574 of the increase under Fees of Court is accounted for by receipts from Government motor transport on the introduction of a system whereby Government Departments are required to afford credits for the cost of motor transport used.

Of the receipts under Posts and Telegraphs £585 represents the liquidation of an Insurance and Depreciation Fund for the renewal of the Berbera electric light plant.

£783 was collected in respect of revenue from Government property under new land legislation and the sale of the rights for one year to collect guano on Mait Island.

The revenue of the Protectorate for the last five years is as follows :—

		£	
1924–1925	April to March ...	82,608	1 Rupee=1*s.* 4*d.*
1925–1926		89,057	
1926–1927		90,569	
1927 ...	January to December	124,452	1 Rupee=1*s.* 6*d.*
1928 ...		157,487	

Public Debt.

13. The Protectorate debt due to the Imperial Treasury on the 31st December, 1928, amounted to £134,000.

This sum represents the loan-in-aid of civil expenditure for the financial years 1921/1922, 1922/1923, 1923/1924, 1924/1925; the nine months April-December, 1927, and the twelve months January to December, 1928. The loan-in-aid actually received in 1928 was £5,250. For the years 1925–1926 and 1926–1927 the deficiency between revenue and civil expenditure was met from surplus balances.

The loan-in-aid is subject to repayment as and when the finances of the Protectorate permit. No repayment has yet been made.

In addition to the loans-in-aid, the Protectorate is in receipt of an annual free grant-in-aid of actual military expenditure. The grant paid in respect of 1928 was £24,500 out of a total of £64,500 sanctioned. The total granted since the 1st of April, 1921, is £385,000.

Expenditure.

14. The total expenditure for the year was Rs. 26,48,372 (£198,628).

£7,724 was incurred in respect of famine relief measures rendered necessary by the destitution caused amongst the native population by the severe drought. £5,665 represents payments of claims by the Air Ministry in respect of the two previous years.

15. The expenditure of the Protectorate for the last five years is as follows :—

		Civil.	*Military.*	*Total.*	
		£	£	£	
1924–25	April	102,352	48,212	150,564	at Re. 1=1*s.* 4*d.*
1925–26	to	103,288	64,667	167,955	
1926–27	March.	100,176	48,949	149,125	
1927 ...	January	116,617	54,490	171,107	at Re. 1=1*s.* 6*d.*
1928 ...	to December	135,003	63,625	198,628	

Financial Position on 31st December, 1928.

The abstract of revenue and expenditure is as follows :—

		£
Surplus, 1st January, 1928		52,041
Revenue—	£	
Civil	157,179	
Military	308	
		157,487
*Grant-in-aid of Military expenditure paid within the year		24,500
Loan in aid of Civil Expenditure		5,250
		£239,278
Expenditure—		
Civil	135,003	
Military	63,625	
		198,628
Surplus, 31st December, 1928		40,650
		£239,278

Banking.

16. There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a branch of the commercial firm of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, Bombay, accept deposits from private individuals, cash cheques drawn on them, and arrange the transfer of funds to the United Kingdom and elsewhere through a branch of the firm at Aden.

There are no banking laws in force.

* Total Grant-in-aid sanctioned £64,500.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

17. The general scheme of agricultural work for the year was set out in detail in the Annual Report for 1927. The following is a general summary of the work carried out and the results obtained during 1928 :—

18. *Rainfall.*—The total rainfall in the Hargeisa District for the year ended 31st December, 1928, was 12.45 inches. Of this amount 2.88 inches fell between September and the end of December, so that during the normal growing season—April to August—only 9.57 inches fell. As stated in the Report for 1927, the rainfall for that year was 14.58 inches. Moreover, the rainfall in other agricultural and pastoral districts is always somewhat smaller than in the Hargeisa and Buramo Districts. When it is considered that the average rainfall for the years 1921–1925, inclusive, was between 16 and 17 inches, and that the rainfall for the year 1926 was nearly 32 inches, the severity of the drought which the Protectorate has experienced for the last two years will be fully realised. The deficiency in rainfall has tended to increase the loss of stock already met with in 1927, and has forced the natives to kill or sell much larger numbers than usual.

19. *Crops.*—The first rains fell at the end of April. By the beginning of June, the Sorghum crops in native gardens, especially in those which had been cultivated by modern implements, were in excellent condition. During July and August, however, nearly all of them except in the Buramo District were devastated by large swarms of locusts, which swept over ten agricultural districts from the east.

20. The progress and results of the planting in Government experimental plots were :—

Lucerne.—The seed germinated well, and, where shaded by trees from the mid-day sun, grew well until the middle of June. Where unprotected from the sun, it appeared to be partly burnt up. Owing largely to the extremely small rainfall in June and July particularly (no rain falling between 18th June and 29th July), the crop died off above ground. That there was still life in it, however, was shown by its re-appearance in the middle of August, after about an inch and a half of rain. The succeeding drought and the devastation caused by locusts ruined it. As the first essential for success with this crop is a good start, so that the roots can penetrate down to moisture, a drought affecting the young plants is fatal.

21. *Orchard Plot and Tree Nursery.*—All the mango seedlings continued to grow strongly until the middle of the drought, when the leaves became somewhat burnt. Of the three mango grafts, two died but the third continued to flourish.

Vine cuttings (from local vines) struck well, and, when planted out on a trellis, grew vigorously.

Passion fruit seedlings raised in boxes were transplanted in April, and, grown on a trellis, found the conditions so suitable that flowers and fruit appeared before the end of the year.

22. While on leave, the Director purchased in Australia on behalf of the Government rooted vines of the most approved table grape varieties, grafted Washington Navel seedless orange trees, grafted apple trees of approved varieties, and grafted peach, nectarine, and apricot trees.

These were planted by the beginning of October, and, except for one apricot tree, which was killed by white ants, grew strongly at once. If the experimental growing of these trees proves successful, it is intended to replace to a great extent the vines now growing in native gardens with better eating varieties, and on the seedling stocks of apples, limes, lemons to graft scions from approved introduced varieties.

23. Cheromoya seeds and Kew Pine suckers were obtained from Ceylon. The former germinated very quickly and appeared to thrive under local conditions. The pine-apple suckers, however, though shaded from the wind and sun, took a long time to strike and progressed very slowly. It is very doubtful whether their introduction will be a success in this climate.

24. Towards the end of the year, seedlings and seeds of grapefruit, Italian lemons, mandarins, and limes were ordered from India and Australia. There is good reason to believe that citrus fruits, with proper care, find the soil and climate of the hill stations congenial.

25. In the tree nursery, which has necessarily included seed boxes in the private bungalow of the Director, success was met with in growing *Melia azedarach*, *Schinus molle*, *Eucalyptus ficifolia*, *Eucalyptus cladocalyx* (sugar gum), *Bauhinia purpurea*, and *variegata*. These trees are now growing in private gardens and, particularly *Melia azedarach* and *Schinus molle*, in the native township of Hargeisa.

26. Through courtesy of the Forestry Department of Western Australia, seedlings and seeds were obtained of several species of acacia and eucalyptus, of *Sterculia gregorii* (Kurrajong), of *Agonis flexuosa*, *Robinia pseudo-acacia*, *Grevillea robusta*, and *Hakea laurina*; and those of the seedlings which survived the long ocean voyage were at once planted out. Some of all the genera are growing well under shade. Seeds were also obtained of *Ceratonia siliqua* (Carob Bean) and *pinus pinaster*, and *halepensis*. Not only is it a valuable shade tree, but also it produces a plentiful crop of very nutritive beans, which form the basis of a number of well-known cattle foods. The tree is hardy and withstands drought. Of the two species of *pinus*, i.e., *pinaster* and *halepensis*, the latter, which prefers a lime soil, will probably prove to be more suitable to the country than the former which prefers a siliceous sandy soil and does not thrive where

lime is present in quantities of over 0.4 per cent. As it has been proved that *pinus* establishes itself with difficulty in soil that does not contain the necessary bacteria, a small amount of inoculated soil was brought from Australia, so that the seedlings could be planted in it and on final transplanting could by means of a small ball of earth inoculate the surrounding soil.

27. Through the courtesy of the Director of Agriculture of Ceylon, seeds were obtained of *Albizzia lebbek*, *Leucaena glauca*, species of *Gliricidia*, some species of acacia, and species of *Casuarina*, all of which were thought to have a chance of becoming established. *Leucaena glauca* has already become established at Port Sudan though not at the same altitude as Hargeisa.

28. *Sorghum.*—Two varieties of Indian jowari were planted, sholapuri and nialo. The seed germinated well and both varieties were in good condition, despite the small rainfall, until July, when the crop was destroyed by locusts. Of the two, the sholapuri variety exhibited a somewhat stronger and quicker growth than the nialo.

29. *Ground-nuts.*—Two samples were planted, one from the Gambia and the other from Kenya. By the middle of May, both samples were well up and showed a good level crop. The growth was checked by the drought, but even in July the two crops were holding their own. In that month, however, they were both destroyed by locusts.

30. *Gram.*—Seed gram from India was sown both in drills and broadcast. The growth in both plots was excellent up to the middle of May, but thereafter the continued drought affected it and the crop was finally destroyed by locusts. There is little doubt, however, that in a normal year a good crop in both plots would be assured.

31. *Sim-sim.*—Seed from the Kavirondo Province of Kenya was sown broadcast in one plot. Though it germinated well, the crop, owing probably to the drought, was a failure, though trials in native gardens where the seed was sown amongst sorghum resulted in vigorous plants. In the plot, the plants especially the seed capsules, were attacked by boring caterpillar.

32. *Cowpeas and Kulthi.*—These grew extremely well to the end of May but were, like other crops, killed off by locusts and the drought. Tried in the orchard plot with a very moderate amount of water, they were very successful, and, without doubt, they could in an ordinary year be grown in native gardens as a cover crop with jowari.

33. *Sudan grass.*—Seed was imported from New South Wales, and broadcast in one plot. The crop showed an excellent and strong growth even as far on as July, but was then eaten up by locusts. There is little doubt that in ordinary seasons the conditions in the greater part of the agricultural areas are suitable to it and it could be cultivated annually for fodder purposes.

34. *Potatoes.*—About 12 cwt. of seed potatoes of the variety "Epicure" were purchased early in the year for experimental purposes. About 3 cwt. were planted at Sheikh and the remainder at Hargeisa. Owing to the drought, the experiment was a failure in both places. As it has been proved that not all varieties of potatoes succeed equally well in tropical conditions, the experiment is being repeated in 1929 with varieties proved to be successful in Kenya.

35. During the year, a report was received from a confectionery firm in England on the sample of 8 cwt. of gum collected in the Protectorate and sent to the firm for trial in 1927. The report stated that about 70 per cent. of the sample appeared to be similar to the gum of *Acacia Verek* obtained from the Sudan, though not quite equal to it in quality, but the remaining 30 per cent. was of inferior quality. The report also stated that in the gum residues examined by the firm distinct traces of gold were found.

36. During the year an application was made for a fibre concession to work *Sansieveria Ehrenbergii* in each of four areas in which its presence is known. There is a good prospect of the concession being taken up this year.

37. *Locusts.*—In July and August, 1928, in the middle of the poorest rainy season for many years, very large swarms of locusts, coming apparently from the eastern and south-eastern districts, traversed the country up to the western side of Gibileh, doing enormous damage. Trees were stripped, pastures were denuded, and all standing crops were completely destroyed. The damage was so great that, owing to the grave menace of further swarms of similar size in the immediate future, measures to be adopted with the object of controlling the pest had at once to be considered. The questions of importance were :—

Whether the locust forming the swarms was the same as that recognised as a menace in any other part of Africa ;

whether the swarms were a visitation from outside the Protectorate ;

whether egg-laying grounds existed or eggs were being deposited over large areas inside the Protectorate ;

and whether the Protectorate could be regarded as a centre from which migratory swarms passed to other countries.

38. Examination of the insects and comparison with known types at once showed that the swarming locust of the Protectorate was *Schistocerca Gregaria*, the same insect which forms the swarms of Arabia, Palestine, the Sudan, Kenya, and Abyssinia. Moreover, reports indicated that in 1928 large swarms entered the Protectorate across the southern border, in all probability from Northern Kenya, and that a large area of hoppers was seen in May and June of that year in the area south of Ainabo in the Burao District. Further, low-flying swarms at or near the egg-laying stage were

observed in the Erigavo District, and especially in all the *tugs** leading from the main scarp towards the sea; and in December a large area of young hoppers was seen at Gud Anod between Erigavo and El Afeeina. The very large swarms which passed over Hargeisa and Gibileh in July and August appeared to enter Abyssinian territory in a south-westerly direction.

39. From these facts it became clear that large migratory swarms entered the Protectorate from the south; that egg-laying grounds, at least of a temporary nature, exist in the country; and that, while the swarms in the Protectorate are most probably due to migrations from breeding grounds in neighbouring countries, the Protectorate must also now be regarded as a breeding ground, and, consequently, as equally a place of origin of migratory flights to other countries.

40. As a necessary preliminary to the control of the pest, steps were taken at the end of the year to establish an intelligence system with the object of marking down all egg-laying and hopper areas. Methods of treatment of hopper areas will be instituted in the incoming year.

Veterinary.

41. Veterinary service is on a modest scale, as the Department only consists of one officer with some native assistants. His work is mainly the control of outbreaks of disease among the native cattle. Control of epidemics has been successfully accomplished. At the beginning of the year rinderpest and pleuro-pneumonia-contagiosa were both well established. The former was stamped out entirely by means of double inoculation and quarantine methods, and the latter reduced to one small focus by vaccination and quarantine methods.

42. Fair use was made of the sheep dip at Hargeisa, and a quantity of the dressing was issued to natives for hand-dressing their animals. A serious outbreak of ulcerative cellulitis occurred during the year and some experimental treatment was tried with a certain amount of success. African horse-sickness occurred for the first time since the formation of the Department in 1924; the outbreak was local, but mortality was 100 per cent.

43. At the end of the year the general condition of the animals was excellent and the outlook for animal husbandry good on the whole.

Fisheries.

44. The sea on the coast-line of the Protectorate is well stocked with fish of all kinds and several applications for fishing concessions have been received during the last few years.

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* *Tug.*—A sandy river bed—dry except during rains.

There is a native pearl fishery at Zeilah. The divers run their own boats and sell the pearls to Jewish merchants in Jibuti in French Somaliland and in Aden. The local conditions would make it very difficult for a European firm to compete in this industry.

Minerals.

45. *Mica.*—The holders of the mica concession, referred to in report for 1927, sent out during the year their own mining engineer to examine the property in the light of the development work done, the amount of saleable mica obtained, and the comparative figures for results and expense. The report of the examiner being unfavourable to the prospects of the Syndicate—though some good mica was obtained—the concession was abandoned.

46. *Petroleum.*—In November a party including two geologists and a surveyor began work on the petroleum concession granted to the Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Company. The preliminary operations of geological survey are not yet completed.

47. *Salt.*—A concession for the production of salt from brine springs and pans at Zeilah was granted during the year and early work on the concession is expected.

48. *Gold.*—As a result of the discovery of gold in the residues of a gum sample sent to an English confectionery firm in December the Director made a preliminary investigation into the possibility of the occurrence of the metal in the area from which the gum was obtained. An examination was made to determine its geological structure and composition, and to ascertain whether quartz reefs, quartz veinlets, acid dykes, or lode were present in it, and whether alluvial gold existed in the *tug** sands. Most of the area consists of more or less metamorphosed sedimentary slates from light-grey to nearly black in colour, dipping chiefly vertically and striking uniformly north and south. The whole of the slate series is seamed with quartz reefs, quartz veinlets, and aplite and granite dykes. Some of the quartz and veinlets and reefs were distinctly "favourable" and samples were collected and sent to the Imperial Institute for assay. From what was seen, it is advisable that all foothills from Dabgadot to Ershida should be examined in the near future.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

49. The results of the drought are reflected in the trade returns for the past year. There has been a general falling off in trade, for the depletion in cattle, sheep, and goats has for the time being deprived the native of his principal purchasing power. What little possessions were left to the native have mostly been sold in order to purchase rice, dates, and sugar, the import of which consequently shows a considerable increase. There was a substantial falling off in the production of ghee, owing to shortage of milk.

* *Tug.*—A sandy river bed—dry except during rains.

Sea Customs.

50. The value of the Protectorate sea-borne trade during the year 1928 was Rs. 1,57,77,713 contrasted with Rs. 1,06,10,783 in 1927. The following comparative table shows the value of the imports and exports, excluding specie, during the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.* Rs.	*Exports.* Rs.	*Total.* Rs.
1924...	50,03,100	34,17,180	84,20,280
1925...	53,65,455	36,40,830	90,06,285
1926...	44,59,650	36,88,710	81,48,360
1927...	57,21,663	48,89,120	1,06,10,783
1928...	82,51,443	75,26,270	1,57,77,713

Imports.

51. The import trade in 1928, excluding specie to the value of Rs. 2,27,333, was distributed in the following proportions amongst the four Protectorate ports :—

Ports.	*Amount in Rs.*	*Percentage.*				
		1928.	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*	*1924.*
Berbera ...	51,25,580	62·1	61·6	58·8	57·5	65·7
Bulhar ...	2,95,913	3·6	3·3	5·3	6·9	4·5
Zeilah... ...	24,90,241	30·2	32·1	32·8	32·8	27·7
Makhir Coast...	3,39,709	4·1	3·0	3·1	2·8	2·1

The following were the principal articles of import showing the countries of origin :—

Article.	*Country of Origin.*	*Unit.*	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*	*1924.*
American Grey Sheeting.	America via Aden.	Yds.	9,750	1,800	166,440	301,530	118,290
China Grey Sheeting.	China via Aden.	„	—	6,300	32,300	—	—
Japan Grey Sheeting.	Japan via Aden.	„	2,161,230	3,151,960	2,466,010	2,857,110	2,587,245
European white Long Cloth	Manchester via Aden.	„	1,036,510	1,990,723	1,399,902	927,226	849,025
Dates ...	Persian Gulf via Aden.	Cwt.	121,592	46,358	47,761	38,280	62,181
Rice ...	India via Aden.	„	208,462	100,515	56,259	91,971	58,251
Sugar ...	Java and Mauritius via Aden.	„	69,612	49,302	31,762	33,966	20,210

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52. It has already been indicated that the substantial increase in the importation of dates, rice, and sugar is due to the shortage of food caused by the drought, which is also responsible for the falling off in the importation of grey sheeting and white long cloth. Japan grey sheeting continues to maintain a long lead over that from China and America, and over the white long cloth from Manchester.

Exports.

53. The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs. 1,21,280, amounted to Rs. 75,26,270, and was distributed in the following proportions amongst the Protectorate ports :—

Port.	*Amount in Rs.*	*Percentage.*				
		1928.	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*	*1924.*
Berbera ...	43,58,360	57·9	54·9	56·0	58·8	57·3
Bulhar... ...	3,36,850	4·5	6·9	9·4	8·2	8·7
Zeilah	25,84,573	34·3	31·9	28·3	29·0	30·5
Makhir Coast...	2,46,487	3·3	6·3	6·3	4·0	3·5

54. The following were the principal indigenous products, showing the country of destination to which they were exported :—

Article.	*Country of destination.*	*Unit.*	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*	*1924.*
Bullocks	Aden	Nos.	877	1,340	1,008	789	881
Sheep and Goats.	A few to Perim and Ceylon but majority to Aden.	Nos.	55,948	120,123	126,280	97,492	93,872
Goats.	do.	Nos.	18,595	—	—	—	—
Skins (sheep and goats).	Europe, America via Aden.	Cwt.	3,773,940	1,754,548	1,066,702	1,302,302	1,008,859
Hides.	do.	Cwt.	2,404	130	181	653	17
Gums and resins.	Europe and India via Aden.	Cwt.	14,678	5,047	6,766	5,227	5,563
Ghee.	Aden.	Cwt.	1,168	4,938	3,693	2,761	8,986

55. The drought was responsible for the increased export of skins and hides and for the decrease in the number of bullocks, sheep, and goats exported.

A most gratifying improvement is recorded in the export of gums and resins. Reference to a report on gum sent home in 1927 to an English confectionery firm appears elsewhere in this report under the heading Agriculture.

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Land Customs.

56. The following are the statistics for the land Customs station at Zeilah during the last five years :—

IMPORTS.

Item.	*Unit.*	1928.	1927.	1926.	1925.	1924.*
Millet (Sorghum)	Cwt. ...	87½	661	955	1,417	4,196
Wheat	Cwt. ...	8½	43	Statistics are not available.		

EXPORTS.

Horses	Nos. ...	15	—	—	—	—
Camels	Nos. ...	138	18	—	—	—
Donkeys	Nos. ...	2	—	—	—	—
Cattle	Nos. ...	759	934	827	945	No record kept.
Sheep and goats	Nos. ...	7,675	7,421	4,905	5,901	No record kept.
Salt...	Cwt. ...	14,736¼	15,903	19,089	20,988	26,061

* Included station at Buramo which was closed in 1925.

57. At Hargeisa duty amounting to Rs. 159/– was collected on 784 Akaras or bundles of Kat (Katha Edulis) imported from Abyssinia, and at Buramo differential duty to the amount of Rs.2,807 was paid on goods originally imported by sea. In 1927 these items were Rs. 294/– on 1,446 Akaras, and Rs. 2,169/–, respectively.

Transit Trade.

58. Customs duty at the rate of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* is levied on all merchandise in transit between the Protectorate and Abyssinia. As will be seen from the comparative figures given below, this concession has succeeded in creating a substantial transit trade across the frontier, despite the fact that merchants using the port of Zeilah have to employ camel transport in competition with the Franco-Ethiopian railway at Jibuti :—

	1928.	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*	*1924.*
Value of Transit Trade	Rs. 13,89,665	14,63,849	9,00,783	7,40,455	5,02,367

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

59. The following is a comparative table of the steam and motor vessels and country craft shipping which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the past five years :—

	1928.		*1927.*		*1926.*		*1925.*		*1924.*	
	Nos.	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*
Entered	740	87,065	666	51,682	504	39,920	560	38,420	528	33,112
Cleared	722	85,936	651	50,861	511	40,870	579	37,966	523	32,588

Roads.

60. There are no railways in the Protectorate. There are approximately 950 miles of roads and cleared tracks in the Protectorate suitable for general traffic and motor transport of medium carrying weight.

The arterial roads of the Protectorate are :—

(1) Berbera — Sheikh — Burao — Ainabo — Badwein — Adad — El Afweina — Erigavo — Barran.
(2) Berbera—Hargeisa—Gibileh—Buramo.
(3) Burao—Oadweina—Hargeisa.
(4) Berbera—Bulhar—Zeilah—Loyi (French Frontier).
(5) Zeilah to Arahalas.

The mileage of the various roads is as follows :—

	miles.
Berbera—Dubar	7
Berbera—Sheikh	50
Sheikh—Burao	38
Burao—Erigavo	236
Erigavo—Barran	108
Berbera—Hargeisa	110
Hargeisa—Buramo	80
Hargeisa—Burao	114
*Berbera—Bulhar	43
*Bulhar—Zeilah	102
Zeilah—French Frontier...	18
*Zeilah—Arahalas	30
*Zeilah—Takushih	4
Total	940

* Only passable for motor traffic during the winter months.

Traffic has considerably increased during this year on the arterial roads Berbera—Burao and Berbera—Hargeisa.

61. It has been observed that the commercial firms are now using higher powered and larger capacity motor transport than in former years.

The number of licensed and non-licensed Government motor-cars in the Protectorate for 1928 is as follows :—

*Licensed	50
Government	15
Total...	65

* Nine cars are privately owned by Government officials.

In the Zeilah District ten motor-cars are engaged in trade between Zeilah and Jibuti, French Somaliland.

62. Four Morris commercial trucks of 16 h.p. and carrying capacity of 25 cwt. have been purchased to replace the Ford trucks.

The demands on Government transport have considerably increased during this year owing to the drought and the necessity of transporting foodstuffs to the various stations in the Protectorate.

63. The number of Government motor vehicles is as follows :—

Ford	10
Morris commercial	4
Governor's car	1
Total	15

The total mileage of the motor transport for the year is as under :—

	miles.
Ford	77,326
Morris commercial	19,834
Total...	97,160

The present comparative cost per ton-mile of transport by Morris truck, Ford truck, and camel is :—

	annas.
Morris truck	6½
Ford truck...	8
Camel	8

64. Proposals have been made by the Abyssinian Government to connect Jigjiga with the Buramo-Hargeisa motor road. It is to be hoped that the scheme will materialise, as improved communications between the Protectorate and Abyssinia cannot fail to be of political and commercial advantage to both countries.

Posts and Telegraphs.

65. The headquarters of the Posts and Telegraphs Department are at Berbera.

The revenue and expenditure of the Department in respect of the last five years are as follows :—

	1928.	*1927.* (*nine months*)	*1926.*	*1925.*	*1924.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue	2,360	1,174	1,452	1,137	1,196
Expenditure ...	8,281	6,191	7,447	7,421	6,680

66. Until the end of 1886 there was no recognised Post Office in British Somaliland, and the acceptance and distribution of ordinary letters were carried out by the British Agents at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeilah. On 1st January, 1887, the Director-General of the Post Office in India sanctioned the establishment of Post Offices at Berbera and Zeilah. The Indian Post Office Act, 1898, was applied to British Somaliland by an Order of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs dated 9th March, 1903, and the Protectorate Post Office was transferred from the Indian Administration and constituted under the above authority on the 1st June, 1903, the Protectorate becoming a member of the International Postal Union.

67. The operations against the Dervishes in 1903 necessitated the establishment of a number of Field Post Offices, the mails being carried by runners and camel riders. This system was maintained till 1925 for the conveyance of mails between the Administrative stations in the interior and, in the absence of railways and motor-cars, proved generally a cheap, reliable, and comparatively speedy service.

In 1925, a weekly motor-car mail service was inaugurated, connecting Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, and Hargeisa. Other places are still served by mail runners.

68. Direct mails, which are exchanged weekly with London, Aden, and Bombay, are carried by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's mail steamers, regular connections with which are made by local contract steamers between Aden and Berbera. Letters to and from the United Kingdom are delivered within from 12 to 14 days.

69. The issue and payment of British postal orders was introduced in January, 1905, and during the same year arrangements were made with the British and Indian Post Offices for a direct exchange of money orders. In 1907, the cash on delivery and insurance of parcels, and the value payable and insurance of parcels, etc., services were introduced with Great Britain and India including Aden, and in the following year the insured letter service to Great Britain was commenced. The insured box service with Great Britain and certain other countries was introduced in 1926. The direct exchange of money orders with the Kenya and Uganda Administration, which had been introduced in 1910, was suspended in 1921 on account of exchange difficulties. Money orders to and from the East African Dependencies are exchanged through the intermediary of the Aden Post Office.

Telegraphs.

70. The present telegraph administration is the result of evolution from and expansion and improvement of the military telegraphs used in connection with the operations of the Somaliland Field Force in 1903 and subsequently. The system has been improved and expanded with the addition of wireless telegraphy.

A land telegraph line now connects Berbera with Sheikh and Burao, which are also served by telephone.

Wireless stations (1½ kilowatt) are now in operation at Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, Buramo, and Zeilah.

All stations are open to the public for inland and foreign telegraph traffic. The charges are :—

6 annas per word from any Protectorate station to Aden.
2 annas per word to any station within the Protectorate.
Rs. 1–14–0* per word to the United Kingdom.
Rs. 1–6–0* per word to India.

71. In April 1927, a wireless receiving apparatus for the reception of the British Official News Service transmitted from Rugby was installed and has given satisfaction.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

72. There is no Judicial or Legal Department in the Protectorate. The Criminal Courts consist of the Protectorate Court, District Courts of the first class, and District Courts of the second class. The Governor and Secretary to the Government are the Judges of the Protectorate Court. Districts Courts of the first class are held by District Commissioners and such other officers as the Governor may empower to do so. District Courts of the Second class are held by those officers empowered by the Governor to do so. The District Courts are empowered by law to try cases which are not of a serious nature. Cases beyond the jurisdiction of the District Courts, or possessing features which make a trial by the Protectorate Court desirable are committed by the District Court for trial by the Protectorate Court. In cases where appeals lie from judgments of District Courts, the appeal is to the Protectorate Court of Appeal, which is the final Appellate Court in the Protectorate.

73. The law of the Protectorate is :—

(*a*) Coded law, i.e., the Indian Penal Code as applied by the "Somaliland Administration of Criminal Justice Ordinance, 1926," and local Ordinances.

(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan law.

A much stricter legal control is now exercised. In past years, murder and homicide among the natives have been dealt with under tribal customs, but such crimes are now tried by the Criminal Courts. The infliction of the death penalty in particularly aggravated cases has not been without its effect upon native thought ; and as the Somali realises that the death penalty may follow conviction for murder, he will doubtless as time goes on, modify his characteristic light-hearted outlook on the sanctity of human life.

* Half this rate is charged for deferred telegrams.

74. The year's record of crime shows a slight increase over that of last year. It should be explained, however, that the destitution caused by the drought (reference to which, unfortunately, looms largely in this Report) was responsible for a very large increase in petty stock thefts. With the exception of larceny, the crime statistics may be regarded as satisfactory ; in most cases, a gratifying decrease is recorded.

The Somali's inherent love of litigation continues to throw a heavy burden of work upon the administrative staff.

75. The publication of a volume of the Revised Laws of the Protectorate is in course of preparation.

Police.

76. The Somaliland Civil Police are constituted under "The Somaliland Civil Police Ordinance, 1927".

The force is under the control of the Governor and has an establishment as under :—

One Commandant,
One Assistant Commandant (who is also Director of Prisons),
One Pay and Quartermaster,
553 Rank and File ;

who were distributed as follows :—

Berbera District	3 officers and 196 rank and file.
Burao District	50 rank and file.
Nogal	25 rank and file.
Erigavo District	100 rank and file.
Hargeisa District	76 rank and file.
Zeilah District (including Buramo) ...	106 rank and file.

77. Attestation is for six years with option of re-engagement on completion of this period for a further three years. Rank and file are non-pensionable but are eligible for gratuities on completion of 12 years and 21 years service.

Training is carried out at headquarters in Berbera, and a musketry course is fired there by all available men. Rank and file in stations other than Berbera are under the charge of Commissioners-in-charge of Districts. Reliefs are effected as often as possible from Berbera in order that relieved men can receive training.

Garrison duties are carried out by the force at Berbera, Erigavo, Zeilah, and Buramo.

The police are liable to serve as a military force when called upon by the Governor to discharge military duties.

Prisons.

78. The established prisons in the Protectorate during 1928 were as follows :—

One Central Prison at Berbera,

Five District Prisons at Zeilah, Burao, Hargeisa, Buramo, and Erigavo.

The Central Prison accommodates all convicts sentenced to terms of imprisonment exceeding six months in addition to all prisoners convicted in the Berbera District.

The District Prisons accommodate prisoners convicted within Districts who are sentenced to imprisonment for six months or less.

The Central Prison is administered by the Director of Prisons, and each District Prison by the Commissioner-in-charge of the District.

79. As Berbera Prison is the Central Prison for the whole Protectorate the accommodation and general routine there are more elaborate than in District Prisons. The prison occupies an area of some 6,700 square yards. The whole is surrounded by a wall from 11 to 17 feet high. Accommodation is provided for male, female, and juvenile convicts and for lunatics. In addition to the usual wards and cells, the prison is equipped with a dispensary, two sick wards capable of accommodating four lying-in cases, a workshop, and the usual offices. The prison is lighted by electricity.

All prisoners on admission to the prison are medically examined. Their clothing is collected, disinfected, and stored, and after bathing they are issued with clean prison clothing. A blanket is provided for use at nights.

Water is laid on in the prison and an unlimited supply is available for drinking, washing and sanitary purposes.

Latrines are of the open type and are kept clean by flushing with water after use. Separate latrines are provided for males and females.

Prisoners wash their own clothing and are issued with soap for this purpose.

80. Committals to the Central Prison during 1928 as compared with the two preceding years were as follows :—

Year.		*For want of bail or for debt.*	*For penal imprisonment.*	*Lunatics.*
1928	...	10	241	15
1927	...	17	177	10
1926	...	22	195	3

The increase in committals for penal imprisonment during the year is general throughout the prisons in the country.

This is attributable to the increase of offences against property by persons who have lost their stock through last year's drought.

81. The bulk of the labour provided by the prisons is unskilled, and is used on work of public utility, such as road making, quarrying stones, watering trees in Government grounds, etc.

A certain amount of skilled labour is carried out in the Central Prison where long sentence prisoners are taught to manufacture and repair articles of use to other Departments. The manufacture

of cane furniture is the main industry and the quality of this is now of such a standard that the demand is anticipated to be much larger than it has previously been.

A scheme has recently been initiated whereby it is intended to train a number of prisoners as carpenters and masons. Prisoners of good character, and with several years of their sentence to complete, are formed into classes under the instruction of skilled tradesmen in the Public Works Department.

VII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

82. The outstanding features of the year were the freedom from plague during the five months when Aden was infected; and the large increase in deficiency diseases and diseases due to starvation and unsuitable feeding.

An isolation hospital for lepers was completed in Berbera in 1927 and the construction of a lunatic asylum in Berbera is under consideration.

VIII.—EDUCATION.

83. In view of the frequent requests for information regarding education in this Protectorate, which are from time to time received from various sources, it should be explained that the Somalis in general are strenuously opposed to their children receiving any education other than that given by their own Mohammedan priests, which consists chiefly of the recitation of passages from the Koran. There is a small Government elementary school in Berbera attended by Somali, Arab, and Indian children. The average number of pupils during the year was 35. Towards the end of the year, however, the Somalis evinced surprising increase of interest in education. This is attributed to the positions in the clerical service of this Protectorate gained by three Somali boys who were sent to the Gordon College at Khartoum in 1920, and returned to Somaliland on the completion of their course at that college. In a very short time the attendance at the Berbera school increased to 90 pupils. Time will show whether the increased interest is genuine or merely ephemeral.

Towards the end of the year, by arrangement with the Sudan Government, six more Somali boys were sent for training to the Gordon College.

The general question of the extension of education in Somaliland is now under review.

IX.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

84. All land in the Protectorate except in proclaimed townships may be said to be vested in the Somali tribe. Outside the townships no individual title to land is recognised (except in the case of a few small religious settlements) nor is any sectional title to any

particular area recognised as giving any particular section of the tribe an exclusive right to that area. It is the habit of certain sections always to graze in the same area and this in practice gives them a prescriptive title to that area, but theoretically and legally individuals of other sections have the right to enter such areas and use the grazing as necessity dictates. In the western part of the Protectorate, where large areas of ground are under cultivation, the tribal title has been restricted to the extent that the right of individual cultivators to the enjoyment of the area cultivated is recognised, but only so long as effective cultivation is continued.

Government has taken powers to expropriate land for public purposes, on payment of compensation for damage done thereby to an individual or section. Land so expropriated becomes Crown land.

The township areas are divided into two classes :—

(*a*) Old-established towns on the coast, such as Berbera and Zeilah ; and

(*b*) Recently-established towns in the interior.

In class (*a*) freehold right to the land could presumably be established by the present owners. Actually, there are no valid deeds of ownership, and the provision of such deeds would entail such heavy work of investigation that the matter has been allowed to remain undefined. In practice, disputes as to ownership seldom arise.

In class (*b*), Government has introduced legislation to give to individuals a valid title to ground. All townships are of such recent growth that, except in five small plots in Hargeisa, no claim to freehold has been established, and leases or temporary occupation licences have been given to such of the present occupiers as wish to secure a legal title to their land.

X.—LABOUR.

85. The Somali has proved himself to be an intelligent and willing worker if properly led. Government has usually been able to obtain labour at a reasonable cost, but hitherto there has been little or no chance of testing the Somali under private employ.

During the past year many Somalis who would not normally have done so were driven by destitution to seek employment.

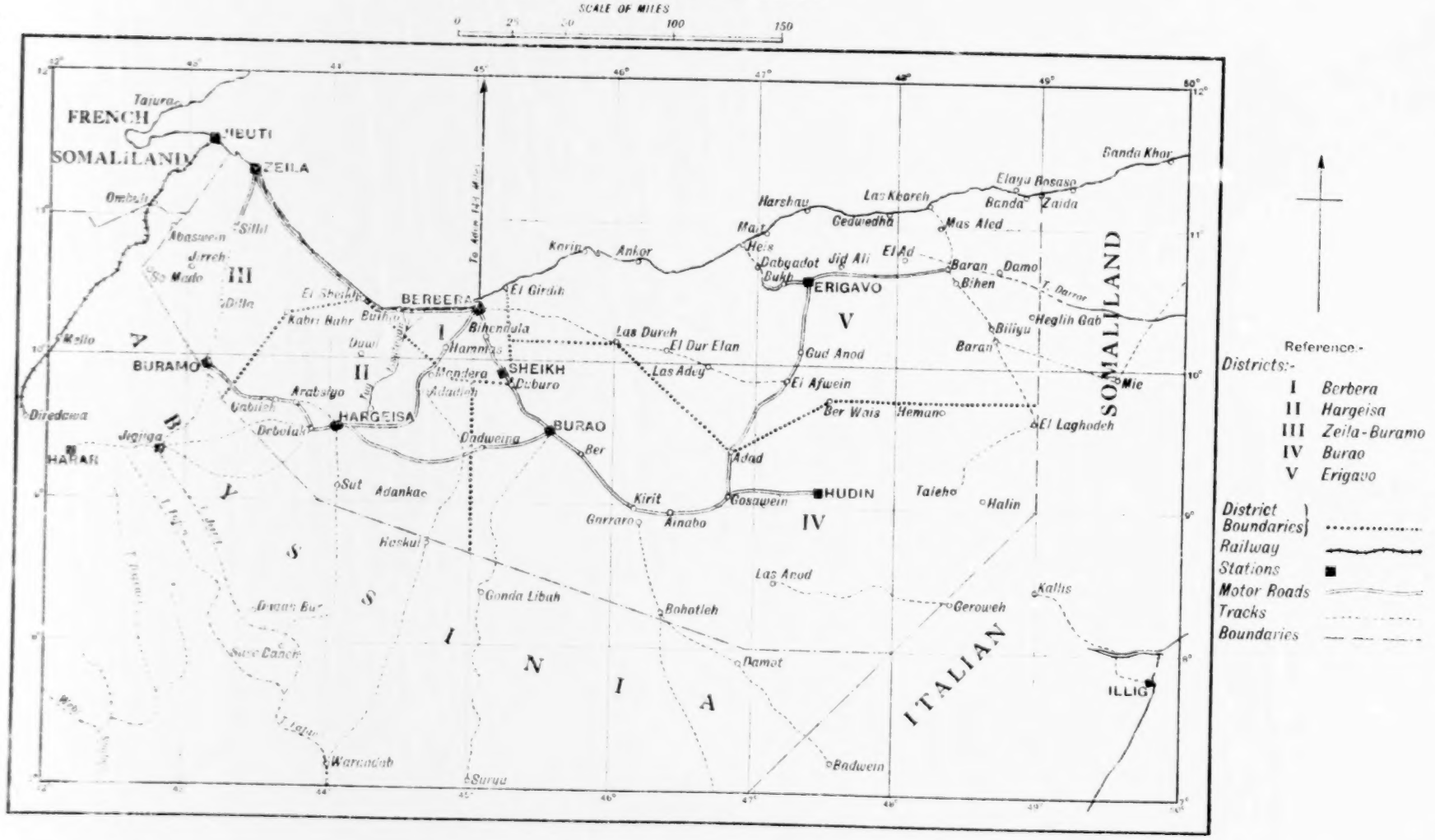
86. The terms of contract between private employers and local labour are governed by a Master and Servants Ordinance, and an Employer's Liability Ordinance.

The export of unskilled labour from the Protectorate is governed by law and is subject to stringent conditions.

G. J. WELSH,
Assistant Secretary to the Government.

THE SECRETARIAT,
BRITISH SOMALILAND,
12*th June*, 1929.

BRITISH SOMALILAND.



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SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1929.

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SOMALILAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1929.

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PREFACE.

History.

1. Prior to 1884 the administration of the Somali Coast had been in the hands of the Egyptian Government. Upon its collapse in 1884, a Protectorate was proclaimed by Great Britain over what is now recognised as British Somaliland, and the boundaries were settled by agreements with France, Italy, and Abyssinia. Until 1898 the Protectorate was administered by the Resident at Aden as a Dependency of the Government of India. In that year it was transferred to the charge of the Foreign Office, and on 1st April, 1905, to the Colonial Office.

From 1901 to 1920 the history of the Protectorate is largely a history of campaigns against Mohammed-bin-Abdulla Hassan, the "Mad Mullah." In 1901, 1902, and 1903, expeditions were sent against the Mullah, and in January, 1904, a crushing defeat was inflicted on him at Jidballeh. He then retired into Italian territory and claimed Italian protection. An agreement was made between him and the Italian Government, but the Mullah soon disregarded this agreement and commenced further aggressive actions against the tribes under British protection.

In 1908, arrangements were made for another expedition against him, but before the expedition was launched a policy of coastal concentration was adopted. In March, 1910, all troops were withdrawn from the country, except for small garrisons at the three ports of Berbera, Bulharm, and Zeilah. This policy did not prove a success, and in 1912-13 the strict coastal concentration was abandoned and administration in the interior gradually resumed. From 1914, desultory fighting continued until 1920, when a combined attack with land and air forces completely scattered the Mullah and his followers and captured all his forts and possessions. The Mullah fled, a broken man, into Abyssinia, where he died in February, 1921.

In recent years, conditions have been peaceful with the exception of inter-tribal cattle raids both in the Protectorate and outside its borders. As indulgence in these is the hereditary pastime of all Somalis, both British-protected and otherwise, they need not be regarded very seriously, as they can be checked, and are being checked, by extension of administration.

Geography.

2. The Protectorate of British Somaliland has for its northern boundary about 450 miles of coast-line on the Gulf of Aden and extends from Loyi Ada (Hadu), longitude 43° 15′ East, as far as the forty-ninth degree of East longitude, close to the town of Banda Ziada.

The Protectorate marches with Italian Somaliland from Banda Ziada to a point in latitude 8° North ; thence with Abyssinia as far as Jalelo, and with French Somaliland from Jalelo to Loyi Ada on the coast.

The area of the Protectorate is about 68,000 square miles. It consists of a coastal plain varying from half a mile to 60 miles in depth, an escarpment precipitous at the eastern end, more gentle in the west, rising from 5,000 feet to 7,000 feet, and an interior plateau sloping gently south and east to Italian Somaliland and the Abyssinian Haud. The coastal plain is hot and the rainfall as a rule is sparse. The escarpment catches the rain and on the summit are to be found areas of cedar forest. The interior plateau consists in the main of level, bush-covered country interspersed with kopjes or even small detached masses of hills and with large open plains free from bush and covered with grass. The country is primarily camel country owing to the scanty water supply, but cattle thrive, especially in the hills, and sheep and goats also do excellently so long as the rainfall is up to the average.

The chief ports are Berbera, Bulhar, Zeilah, and Las Khoreh.

There is a weekly steamer service from Aden.

Climate.

3. Somaliland has a small but fairly regular rainfall. The dry season lasts from December to March, during which period there is practically no rain. The big rains fall during April and May and they are succeeded by the S.W. monsoon (called locally the *kharif*), which blows from June till October—the hottest period of the year. The *kharif* is very trying to Europeans, particularly on the coast, where the heat and dust make concentrated work difficult.

On the higher ground in the interior the heat is at no time intolerable and the nights are generally cool.

From November to March the climate is quite pleasant, the heat on the coast being tempered by the sea breeze.

The rainfalls in the country are very local and consequently there is often considerable variation in local conditions as to grazing, rainpools, etc.

The Medical Department undertake the collection of meteorological statistics, and these are as follows :—

Station.	*Total Rainfall.*	*Mean Maximum.*	*Mean Minimum.*	*Absolute Maximum Temperature.*	*Absolute Minimum Temperature.*	*Total Rainfall.*			
						1928.	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*
	Inches	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Berbera ...	0·37	93·0	78·6	109	63	1·09	2·02	6·54	0·54
Burao ...	9·25	85·1	63·2	94	51	9·07	9·78	12·30	11·89
Sheikh ...	25·04	78·2	55·6	91	39	19·90	11·70	27·38	20·59
Hargeisa ...	17·07	85·4	56·9	93	35	12·45	14·58	31·91	16·39
Zeilah ...	1·81	94·4	75·9	111	62	3·08	8·42	10·81	2·04
Buramo ...	16·42	77·4	59·0	87	44	15·99	19·79	27·79	23·24
Erigavo ...	11·90	77·7	51·0	85	37	10·50	15·29	18·34	12·62

Currency.

4. The monetary unit is the Government of India rupee and subsidiary coinage, consisting of 1 pie, 1 pice, 1, 2, 4, and 8 anna pieces. Government of India currency notes are in circulation.

The rupee maintained throughout the year the Government of India stabilised rate of 1*s.* 6*d.* with but insignificant variations.

Weights and Measures.

5. The Imperial standard of weights and measures is in force. The Indian and Somali traders also use certain of the weights and measures in force in British India.

Language.

6. The language is Somali, but the natives are capable linguists, and English, Arabic, and Hindustani are spoken in the coastal towns.

I.—GENERAL.

7. The Protectorate is administered by the Governor and in his absence by the Secretary to the Government. There is no Executive or Legislative Council. The powers of the Governor are defined in the Somaliland Order in Council, 1929, which consolidated all previous Orders in Council, omitting matters which had become irrelevant or out of date.

Departments of Government.

8. The Departments of Government whose headquarters are at Berbera are those dealing with Finance, Police and Prisons, Medical services, Customs, Posts and Telegraphs, and Public Works. The headquarters of the Veterinary Department are at Burao, and those of the Geological and Agricultural Department are at Hargeisa, where they are nearer the centre of their respective activities.

Military Garrison.

9. The Military Garrison of the Protectorate consists of the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, with headquarters at Burao and a detachment at Hargeisa.

Two aeroplanes of the Aden Squadron, Royal Air Force, are stationed in Somaliland. Aerodromes are maintained at Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, Hargeisa, Buramo, Zeilah, and Erigavo; and landing grounds at Baran, Aik, Halin, and Las Anod.

District Administration.

10. For administrative purposes the Protectorate has been divided into five districts each of which is in charge of a Commissioner. The five districts are :—

Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, and Zeilah.

Political Situation.

11. The good rains of the autumn of 1928 mentioned in the last report were repeated in 1929. It is many years since the Somalis have enjoyed such wealth of grazing even in spite of successive waves of locust invasion. As a result the Administration was on the qui vive for internal trouble and intersectional fighting, since it is axiomatic of Somaliland that fighting may be anticipated in direct proportion to the amount of milk available in the villages. The young Somali's instinct as soon as he is well fed is to go and raid someone, a pastime comparable to the more homely man's day at Lords' or the Cup Final or more nearly perhaps to the Irishman's Donnybrook Fair.

12. But in 1929 the Administration was agreeably disappointed as the tribes remained comparatively quiet throughout the year. This

satisfactory result may have been due to the loss of stock during the previous two years, which reduced materially the amount of milk available per person or it may have been due to the presence on the frontier of a Boundary Commission with its attendant escort of Camel Corps and large personnel of white officers. It is probable that both these causes contributed to keeping the people quiet, but the main cause is to be sought in the extension of the power of the Administration in Somaliland itself and the growth of settled administration in neighbouring territories, which has made it more difficult for offenders to find a safe asylum across the frontier.

The only serious outbreak occurred between two sections of the Habr Yunis who are comparatively closely akin and moreover more sophisticated than any other sections in the Protectorate. This incident was punished by a heavy fine of rifles on both sections.

13. One Company of the Somaliland Camel Corps was employed until September in the western part of the Protectorate but they were not actually engaged in any punitive work except for one short patrol in January. The need for Camel Corps action could be traced directly to the drought because loss of stock had caused the formation on the western frontier of bands of " buraad " or highway robbers who were driven to this mode of life by famine. These robbers attacked caravans travelling from Jibuti or Zeilah to the interior. They were operating equally in British, French, and Abyssinian territory and were drawn from and assisted by all, but chiefly the rer Kul, sections of the Esa tribe who were grazing along the caravan road. A strong patrol of Camel Corps passed through the country in January and exacted a fine from those sections who were known to be supplying the " buraad ", and the bands themselves were successfully dispersed. A company of the Camel Corps remained inactive in the district for most of the year until the payment of the fine was complete.

14. About the middle of the year mild excitement was occasioned by the reported appearance from the Ogaden country of a " wadad " (Somali priest) who was said to have proclaimed himself to be the successor of the Mad Mullah. Rumour credited him with the possession of a four-eared pony — the sign by which the Mad Mullah's successor would be known—and he was reported to have displayed signs and performed miracles proving that he was the Hadi (spiritual leader). The story goes that at one place a meeting of Somalis was held to decide whether they should apprehend him and hand him over to the Government, or whether he should be given a wife in order to prove if he was heaven-sent or earth-born. The latter course was decided on, whereupon the wadad, breathing an incantation, was taken by the wind and disappeared. He was generally regarded as a rogue playing on the simplicity of the ignorant in order to obtain food from them. He appears to have aroused little interest and to have returned to the Ogaden country.

Abyssinia.

15. Inter-tribal raiding unfortunately continued during the greater part of the year between the British Isaak Somalis and the Abyssinian Ogaden. A further meeting at Daghabur between representatives of the tribes failed to produce any lasting settlement. The situation was discussed with the Abyssinian authorities during a visit paid by the Governor to Addis Ababa in October. The Abyssinian authorities showed a genuine desire to co-operate in the closer control of frontier tribes, and by the end of the year there were indications that this policy would be successfully pursued.

An Ethiopian Consul was appointed to Hargeisa and a company was formed to build a road and operate motor transport from Jijiga to Hargeisa and Berbera, and also from Daghabur in the Ogaden country to Jijiga.

Anglo-Italian Boundary.

16. As was stated in the Report for 1928, an Anglo-Italian Boundary Commission was appointed, following negotiations between His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Italian Government, to demarcate the boundary line between British Somaliland and Italian Somaliland. Before the appointment of the Commission, two British Army officers were placed at the disposal of the Somaliland Government, and commenced work in January, 1929, on a preliminary survey to locate the boundary. Two Italian officers were similarly engaged in Italian territory. The British party were able to reach the neighbourhood of Bihen from the coast by the end of July. In August, the British Section of the Boundary Commission under Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Stafford, M.C., R.E. arrived in the country and was concentrated at Baran (Sorl) by the beginning of September. The Italian concentration was completed in October. Combined work began in the first week in October, and by the end of December, 1929, the frontier had been demarcated from the coast, with the exception of the Bandar Ziada Enclave, as far south as the Baran Tug.

It was arranged that, to facilitate the work of the Commission, maps should be prepared of the boundary from photographs taken from the air by British and Italian aeroplanes. An Air Survey Flight arrived at Baran from Aden at the end of November and began work in December.

To assist in the work of the Joint Commission tracks were made to connect Baran with Las Dowa, on the Italian side, and Bihen with Geroweh. (It is now possible to go by motor-car from Berbera to Nairobi via Mogadiscio).

It is anticipated that the work of the Commission in the field will be completed in September, 1930.

A sub-commission of the Boundary Commission has been charged with the work of investigating claims and counter-claims arising from inter-tribal raiding across the frontier in recent years, and to recommend a settlement to the British and Italian Governments.

Drought.

17. The gleam of hope in the shape of rains, referred to in the previous report, was amply realised by the most plentiful rainfall for several years. As a result grazing everywhere was good and plentiful, with consequent benefit to stock. Reports from one district show that since the drought ewes have bred twice and goats four times and that, even allowing for the natural depletion of stock due to disease, accidents, slaughter, etc., the number of sheep and goats is now 25 per cent. more than at the end of the drought. At the same time, so severe was the drought and so far reaching its ravages, that several years must pass before a complete recovery can be attained.

The Relief Camp at Bulhar remained open during the year and destitutes from all parts of the country continued to be sent there to be fed and housed at Government expense. By the end of the year the camp contained the following numbers :—

Men	1,225
Women	3,086
Children	2,183
Total	6,494

a reduction of 8,794 from its maximum of 15,288.

II.—FINANCE.

18. Trade in the Protectorate was, as had been anticipated, adversely affected as an aftermath of the 1927–1928 drought. There was always a sufficiency of currency obtainable locally for the needs of Government but the amount normally spent by the native population on clothes and luxuries was necessarily converted into food as an alternative to realisation of the very much reduced flocks and herds, which form the means of livelihood of the large majority of the population.

Revenue.

19. The revenue of the Protectorate for the year amounted to Rs. 14,10,414 (£105,781) showing a decrease of Rs. 6,89,417 (£51,706) as compared with the 1928 collections. The principal sources of revenue were as follows :—

Customs, Rs. 10,61,032 (£79,577), a decrease of Rs. 5,63,964 (£42,297).

Licences, Excise, etc., Rs. 1,62,682 (£12,201), a decrease of Rs. 1,32,659 (£9,950).

Fees of Court, etc., Rs. 99,637 (£7,473), a decrease of Rs. 2,189 (£164).

Posts and Telegraphs, Rs. 24,442 (£1,833), a decrease of Rs. 7,023 (£527).

Revenue from Government Property, Rs. 6,093 (£457), a decrease of Rs. 4,353 (£326).

The foregoing statistics reflect a considerable shrinkage of revenue during the past year but an even larger setback had been anticipated as, during the 1927–1928 drought, enormous numbers of animals died or were slaughtered and, consequently, destitution was rife during 1929. Revenue collections during the year 1928 were unprecedently high as a result of the enforced sale of very large numbers of skins and the import of foodstuffs and, therefore, the decreases shewn in the revenue for the year 1929 may be largely discounted.

The revenue of the Protectorate for the last five years is as follows :

		£	
1925–1926	April to March	89,057	Re. 1=Shillings 1*s.* 4*d.*
1926–1927		90,569	
1927 ...	January to December	124,452	
1928 ...		157,487	Re. 1=Shillings 1*s.* 6*d.*
1929 ...		105,781	

Public Debt.

20. The net sum due by the Protectorate to the Imperial Treasury on 31st December, 1929, was £134,000. This sum represents the loan-in-aid of civil expenditure for the financial years 1921–1922, 1922–1923, 1923–1924, 1924–1925; the nine months April–December, 1927, and the twelve months January to December, 1928. The loan-in-aid actually received in 1928 was £5,250. For the years 1925–1926 and 1926–1927 the deficiency between revenue and civil expenditure was met from surplus balances.

The loan-in-aid is subject to repayment with interest as and when the finances of the Protectorate permit. No re-payment has yet been made.

In addition to the loans-in-aid the Protectorate is in receipt of an annual free grant-in-aid of actual military expenditure.

The grant paid in 1929 was £95,000. This sum included £40,000 of the 1928 grant not paid over before 1st January, 1929. The total granted since 1st April, 1921, is £480,000.

Expenditure.

21. The total expenditure for the year was Rs. 27,60,890 (£207,067) as compared with a total of Rs. 26,48,372 (£198,628) for 1928.

Of the year's expenditure some £24,000 was due to the famine, £19,000 being expended on direct relief and £5,000 on additional measures to cope with crime caused by the famine.

The expenditure of the Protectorate for the last five years is as follows :—

		Civil.	*Military.*	*Total.*	
		£	£	£	
1925–26	April to	103,288	64,667	167,955	at Re. 1
1926–27	March.	100,175	48,950	149,125	= Shgs. 1/4.
1927 ...	January	116,617	54,490	171,107	at Re. 1
1928 ...	to	135,003	63,625	198,628	= Shgs. 1/6.
1929 ...	December.	152,614	54,453	207,067	

Financial Position on 31st December, 1929.

22. The abstract of revenue and expenditure is as follows :—

	£	£
Surplus on 1st January, 1929		40,651
Revenue—		
Civil	105,151	
Military	630	
		105,781
*Grant-in-Aid of Military Expenditure paid within the year		95,000
		£241,432
Expenditure—	£	£
Civil	152,614	
Military	54,453	
		207,067
Surplus at 31st December, 1929		34,365
		£241,432

Banking.

23. There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a branch of the commercial firm of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, Bombay, accepts deposits from private individuals, cashes cheques drawn on them, and arranges the transfer of funds to the United Kingdom and elsewhere through a branch of the firm at Aden.

There are no banking laws in force.

* Includes £40,000 of 1928 Grant-in-Aid not paid over before 1st January, 1929.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

24. In July a Somali Inspector of Gardens was appointed. At present his duties are to ascertain in each district the position of all areas under cultivation, the number of plots, the condition of the areas or plots, i.e., whether marked off with zaribas or otherwise, whether at present cultivated, temporarily abandoned owing to the drought, or permanently abandoned, and whether new areas are taken up. Before the end of the year more than half of the Hargeisa District had been inspected and reports furnished. The information obtained will be of service in connection with the Agricultural Census of 1930, and especially in regard to the programme of work which it is the intention of the Director to begin upon next year.

25. To mitigate to some extent the effect of the drought of 1927–1928, arrangements were made for the issue by the Government, under certain conditions, of seed Sorghum (called locally *jowari*) to those plot-owners who, by some means or other, would be able to cultivate at least part of their holding. Fortunately, experiments had proved that one Indian variety of the grain—the Sholapuri—was suitable to the conditions, possessed a type of grain of which the natives approved, grew quickly and matured early. A consignment, therefore, of seven and a-half tons of this variety was ordered from the Surat Farm in India, and the whole of it was distributed in the course of three weeks. Care was taken that each owner of a plot received in his own hands a quantity sufficient to sow the amount of ground he was capable of cultivating. No seed whatever was handed over to headmen or akils for distribution to their section. A note was kept of the name and tribe of each recipient and of the amount of seed issued to him, so that a return in cash or kind could be called for from each owner after he had reaped his crop. In some cases, of course, the grain was eaten instead of being sown, but these cases were in a minority. Some sowed it at once, others held it over for a month or two. Although, as the result of the ravages of locust hoppers, the young crops in April and May were to a greater or less extent eaten down, a fair proportion of them recovered. The damage done to the full grown crops by the adult locusts which followed the hoppers in July and August was comparatively small.

26. A pleasing feature of the distribution of this variety of jowari is the fact that there is a demand amongst the natives who have seen it grow for seed of it for next year's crop.

27. Experimental plots have been established, where tests have been made with lucerne, varieties of sorghum from India and the Gambia, groundnuts from the Gambia, gram and kulthi from India, Sudan grass, potatoes, and with a number of fruit plants and

introduced forest trees. Specimens of the stems, leaves, and fruits of "Adad" and "Jalefan" were collected and sent to the Botanic Gardens, Kew, for determination and arrangements are being made with the Sudan Government for two selected Arabic-speaking Somalis to be sent there for training in the proper method of tapping gum trees, grading and preparing gum for sale and, if possible, in the planting of new areas. Samples of the Ye'eb nuts (*Cordeauxia edulis*) have been sent to Kew and elsewhere, and samples of a milky latex—the product of the Enjir ("rubber") tree, which grows 20 miles south-east of Burao—have been sent to the Imperial Institute for report. A collection of native pasture grasses has also been made and submitted to Kew for identification and a sample of the favourite fodder grass Daremo (*Andropogen Aucheri*) has been sent for examination, as to its mineral composition, by the Rowett Research Institute, Aberdeen.

28. *Locusts.*—Very early in the year, comparison of the characters of the swarming locusts of the Protectorate with those of specimens obtained from Kenya, and with those in published descriptions of different genera and species, established the identity of the local form with Schistocerca gregaria, the desert locust of Northern Africa, Arabia, and Kenya, and the identification was confirmed by determinations of young specimens at the London Bureau of Entomology.

29. No money was available for active preventive measures against the pest and efforts were therefore directed only to collecting information as to habits, etc., which might assist in a correct interpretation of swarm movements and habits. Hoppers appeared in practically every district in the Protectorate in enormous numbers. Practically all gardens were denuded up to the end of August and it was only the exceptionally heavy growth of grass which averted another famine.

At the end of the year the pest appeared to be abating.

Veterinary.

30. During the year the country has been entirely free from rinderpest. The one remaining focus of pleuro-pneumonia-contagiosa referred to in last year's report was stamped out, but unfortunately a fresh outbreak occurred in June, the disease being introduced from Abyssinia. By the end of the year as a result of quarantine and vaccination methods the outbreak had been confined to two small foci.

31. Mange is now practically non-existent, the result of a more thorough use of the sheep dip at Hargeisa and of the hand-dressing issued to natives. The experimental treatment of ulcerative cellulitis was found very efficacious in the few cases treated, but much more experience is needed before a definite opinion as to its real value can be given.

At the end of the year a serious outbreak of *surra* (trypanosomiasis in camels) was reported from the Eastern area. It is assumed provisionally that infection is brought by trading camels from the Webi Shabelli and transmitted mechanically by ticks as tsetse flies are not found in the infected area. The outbreak is being dealt with at the time of writing.

32. The general condition of the animals is excellent, and, the climatic conditions having been exceptionally good, the general outlook for animal husbandry is excellent.

Fisheries.

33. The sea on the coast-line of the Protectorate is well stocked with fish of all kinds and several applications for fishing concessions have been received during the last few years.

There is a native pearl fishery at Zeilah. The divers run their own boats and sell the pearls to Jewish merchants in Jibuti in French Somaliland and in Aden. The local conditions would make it very difficult for a European firm to compete in this industry.

Minerals.

34. *Gold and Platinum.*—The samples collected in 1928 during the investigation of the area extending from Haduya to Tug Had were assayed at the Imperial Institute with the following results :—

> " No. 2. A sand concentrate from Tug Had. Gold present, but in quantity less than one grain per ton.
>
> " No. 6. Quartz veins at Haduya, along joint planes which traverse the slates at right angles to the strike.
>
> Gold present to the extent of about two grains per ton."

The report proceeded :—

> " In the case of sample No. 14, ferruginous vesicular quartz from lenses in the slates on the north-east side of Haduya, platinum group metals amounting to 20 grains per ton were found in the first portion of the sample assayed, but although the assay was repeated three times, negative results were obtained from the remainder of the sample. The precious metals found in the first assay were proved to consist mainly of platinum, the identity of this element being unquestionable.
>
> " It is extremely unlikely that the platinum could have been introduced adventitiously into the sample at the Imperial Institute, and it is difficult to account for its presence in only one portion of the sample other than by concluding either that the platinum was present as a single grain, or that at some stage of the collection or packing of the material a fragment of some platiniferous substance was accidently introduced.

"In these circumstances it would appear desirable to make a further search for platinum in this rock, and it is suggested that a further quantity of about 10 lb. of this material should be forwarded to the Imperial Institute for examination."

35. The quantities of gold present in the samples are undoubtedly very small. On the other hand, it is definitely stated that gold was present in them, and it is well known that even in areas in which it has been found in reefs or veins, only some of the latter contain the material and that, therefore, even though the assays of the samples collected should fail to disclose the presence of gold, the result cannot be regarded as conclusive until a more complete examination of the reefs and veins has been made and a more exhaustive collection of samples has been assayed. With the object of the collection of further information the Government Geologist was instructed to undertake a further tour in the area at the end of the year.

36. Additional samples of quartz veins, some with pyritic strings were obtained from Haduya, the reputed platinum-bearing rock was found in situ at Haduya, and samples of it both from the margins of quartz veins and from the main mass were collected. These were sent to the Imperial Institute for assay. Moreover, it was discovered that from the vicinity of Tug Had eastwards to Goro, the foothills consist entirely of true sedimentary slates similar in strike, dip, and jointing to those already described from Haduya in the report for 1928, but differing somewhat in composition. Whereas the Haduya slates are more or less metamorphosed, greyish, purplish, and nearly black phyllitic rocks containing in places black-spotted probably chiastolite varieties, the slates eastwards of Tug Had, for a distance of about 25 miles, are much less noticeably metamorphosed, are interbedded with purplish-black grits, with green grits and grauwackes, and contain here and there parallel bands of black crystalline limestone several feet in thickness. The grits and grauwackes are especially noticeable at Kalhan, and the black limestone bands at El Dibbir. Further, the slates east of Tug Had not only contain very few quartz reefs and veins and these only of the white "buck" quartz type, but are comparatively free from intrusives, the only types of the latter noted being fine-grained granite and felsitic porphyry.

37. At Haduya, within the slate series, with the same strike, with a pronounced slaty structure and the same vertical dip of the planes of fissility (or foliation), is a very fine-grained pale-green rock which appears to be the one in which platinum is thought to occur. It is impossible to tell from the hand specimens what the rock is. Along quartz veins it occurs as a pale or dark-green chloritic schist, and in the massive state it exhibits parallel cracks resembling the asbestos-filled cracks in serpentine, though no asbestos could be found in the

rock. While in many ways resembling a fine-grained carbonated serpentine, the rock can scarcely be determined without microscopical examination.

38. *Coal.*—Two samples of coal from El Ham-Ham near Erigavo were obtained from outcrops; they were similar to the surface samples of the seam described in 1924 from Hedhed Tug south of Ankor. It is reported that one seam is about 20 feet long and 5 feet thick, and others occur in the vicinity. All are in the face of the escarpment below the topmost thick stratum of Eocene limestone.

39. *Water Supply.*—Following on the receipt from the Secretary of State for the Colonies of particulars regarding the provisions of the Colonial Development Act, a conference was convened at Sheikh for the purpose, amongst others, of deciding upon the lines along which improvements in the water supply of the Protectorate are most urgently needed, the means by which these improvements can be best effected, and the places at which efforts at improvement should first be made. Suggestions and recommendations were made as to the methods to be adopted both for improvement of the water supply and for reconditioning and maintaining the roads. Provisional estimates of the cost of these improvements were framed. Arrangements were subsequently made, following consideration by the Colonial Development Committee of the material supplied, for a well known firm of Consulting Engineers to prepare a scheme for water boring operations estimated to cost £15,000 for a period of two years.

40. *Petroleum.*—The members of the staff of the Somaliland Petroleum Company, after a period spent in Europe, returned to the Protectorate for further examination of the Dagah Shabell area and the Nogal.

41. *Mica.*—A request was received from India for the conditions governing the grant of a concession for prospecting and working this mineral at Durriehauseh, Humbeleh, etc. Further action on the part of the inquirer is awaited.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

Sea Customs.

42. The value of the Protectorate sea-borne trade during the year 1929 was Rs. 94,60,480 contrasted with Rs. 1,57,77,713 in 1928. The following comparative table shows the value of the imports and exports, excluding specie, during the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.* Rs.	*Exports.* Rs.	*Total.* Rs.
1925	53,65,455	36,40,830	90,06,285
1926	44,59,650	36,88,710	81,48,360
1927	57,21,663	48,89,120	1,06,10,783
1928	82,51,443	75,26,270	1,57,77,713
1929	62,75,587	31,84,893	94,60,480

Imports.

43. The import trade in 1929, excluding specie to the value of Rs. 35,000, was distributed in the following proportions between the four Protectorate ports :—

Ports.	*Amount in Rs.*	*Percentage.*				
		1929.	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*
Berbera ...	45,03,765	71·8	62·1	61·6	58·8	57·5
Bulhar ...	3,01,301	4·8	3·6	3·3	5·3	6·9
Zeilah... ...	11,71,614	18·7	30·2	32·1	32·8	32·8
Makhir Coast...	2,98,907	4·7	4·1	3·0	3·1	2·8

The following were the articles which principally contributed to the total value :—

Article.	*Country of Origin.*	*Unit.*	*1929.*	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*
American Grey Sheeting.	America via Aden.	Yds.	38,410	9,750	1,800	166,440	301,530
China Grey Sheeting.	China via Aden.	„	—	—	6,300	32,300	—
Japan Grey Sheeting.	Japan via Aden.	„	1,546,265	2,161,230	3,151,960	2,466,010	2,857,110
European White Long Cloth.	Manchester via Aden.	„	1,071,248	1,036,510	1,990,723	1,399,902	927,226
Dates ...	Persian Gulf via Aden.	Cwt.	51,395	121,592	46,358	47,761	38,280
Rice ...	India via Aden	„	183,686	208,462	100,515	56,259	91,971
Sugar ...	Java and Mauritius via Aden.	„	43,823	69,612	49,302	31,762	33,966

Exports.

44. The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs. 90,507, amounted to Rs. 31,84,893 and was distributed in the following proportions amongst the Protectorate ports :—

Port.	*Amount in Rs.*	*Percentage.*				
		1929.	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*
Berbera ...	19,50,690	61·3	57·9	54·9	56·0	58·8
Bulhar... ...	2,20,803	6·9	4·5	6·9	9·4	8·2
Zeilah	8,15,684	25·6	34·3	31·9	28·3	29·0
Makhir Coast...	1,97,716	6·2	3·3	6·3	6·3	4·0

The following were the main indigenous products shipped from the Protectorate :—

Article.	*Country of destination.*	*Unit.*	*1929.*	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*
Bullocks...	Aden ...	Nos.	563	877	1,340	1,008	789
Sheep and Goats.	A few to Mukalla and Suez but majority to Aden.	„	60,079	74,543	120,123	126,280	97,492
Skins (sheep and goats).	Europe, America via Aden.	„	981,428	3,773,940	1,754,548	1,066,702	1,302,302
Hides ...	do.	Cwt.	2,832	2,404	130	181	653
Gums and resins.	Europe and India via Aden.	„	16,759	14,678	5,047	6,766	5,227
Ghee ...	Aden ...	„	1,059	1,168	4,938	3,693	2,761

Land Customs.

ZEILAH.

45. The statistics of the land customs station from 1925–1929 are—

IMPORTS.

Item.	*Unit.*	*1929.*	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925*
Millet (Sorghum) ...	Cwt. ...	—	87½	661	955	1,417
Wheat	„ ...	—	8½	43	Statistics are not available.	

EXPORTS.

Horses	Nos. ...	6	15	—	—	—
Camels	„ ...	207	138	18	—	—
Donkeys	„ ...	2	2	—	—	—
Cattle...	„ ...	1,554	759	934	827	945
Sheep and Goats ...	„ ...	6,341	7,675	7,421	4,905	5,901
Salt	Cwt. ...	7,470¼	14,736¼	15,903	19,089	20,988

46. The condition of the salt industry is evident from the fluctuations which have occurred since 1923 :—

Quantity Exported.

Year.	*By land.* Cwt.	*By sea.* Cwt.	*Total.* Cwt.
1923	34,314	48,082	82,396
1924	26,061	2,854	28,915
1925	20,988	25,740	46,728
1926	19,089	22,444	41,533
1927	15,903	31,432	47,335
1928	14,736	18,822	33,558
1929	7,470	54,528	61,998

Hargeisa and Buramo.

47. At Hargeisa duty amounting to Rs. 152 was collected on 750 akaras or bundles of Kat (Katha Edulis) imported from Abyssinia and at Buramo differential duty to the amount of Rs. 470 was paid on goods originally imported by sea. In 1928 the corresponding items were Rs. 159 (784 akaras) and Rs. 2,807.

Transit Trade.

48. Customs duty at the rate of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* is levied on merchandise in transit between the Protectorate and Abyssinia. All merchandise to and from Abyssinia is now conveyed either by motor or camel transport to Jijiga *via* Berbera. The value of the goods thus imported and exported since 1923 was :—

In 1923	Rs. 2,49,693
„ 1924	Rs. 5,02,367
„ 1925	Rs. 7,40,455
„ 1926	Rs. 9,00,783
„ 1927	Rs. 14,63,849
„ 1928	Rs. 13,89,665
„ 1929	Rs. 10,78,879

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

49. The following is a comparative table of the steam and motor vessels and country craft shipping which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the past five years :—

	1929.		*1928.*		*1927.*		*1926.*		*1925.*	
	Nos.	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*
Entered ...	909	85,498	740	87,065	666	51,682	504	39,920	560	38,420
Cleared ...	926	85,125	722	85,936	651	50,861	511	40,870	579	37,966

Roads.

50. There are no railways in the Protectorate. The approximate mileage of roads and cleared tracks in the Protectorate suitable for general traffic and mechanical transport of medium weight is 940 miles. Consideration is being given to the possibility of obtaining assistance from the Colonial Development Fund for a programme of road development, and estimates are being framed. In particular, it is hoped to proceed with the construction of a road from Zeilah to the Abyssinian frontier, with a view to the development of the transit trade.

The arterial roads of the Protectorate are :—

(1) Berbera — Sheikh — Burao — Ainabo — Adad — El Afweina — Erigavo — Baran.

(2) Berbera—Hargeisa—Gabileh—Buramo.

(3) Zeilah—Loyi (French Frontier).

(4) Burao—Oadweina—Hargeisa.

(5) Zeilah—Arahalas.

51. The mileage of the various roads is as follows :—

	miles.
Berbera—Dubar (Water works)	7
Berbera—Upper Sheikh	50
Sheikh—Burao	38
Burao—Ainabo	81
Ainabo—Adad	52
Adad—El Afweina	47
El Afweina—Erigavo	56
Erigavo—Baran	108
Berbera—Hargeisa	110
Hargeisa—Gabileh	38
Gabileh—Buramo	42
*Berbera—Bulhar	43
*Bulhar—Zeilah	102
Zeilah—Loyi	18
Burao—Hargeisa	114
*Zeilah—Arahalas	30

52. Traffic has considerably increased during this year on the main arterial roads of the Protectorate.

It has been observed that the commercial firms are replacing low powered and small capacity vehicles, and that all the commercial motor transport is of foreign manufacture—not one vehicle of British make.

53. The number of licensed and non-licensed Government motor-cars in the Protectorate for 1929 was as follows :—

†Licensed	48
Government	11

54. The number of Government motor vehicles was as follows :—

Ford	6
Morris Commercial	4
Governor's Car	1

---

* Only passable for motor traffic during the winter months.

† 14 cars privately owned by Government officials.

55. The total mileage of the motor transport was as under :—

	miles.
Morris Commercial	47,923
Ford	26,431
	74,354

56. The present comparative cost per ton-mile of transport by Morris truck, Ford truck, and camel, estimated on the assumption that a full load is always carried, is :—

	annas.
Morris truck	6.71
Ford truck	10.65
Camel	8.0

Posts and Telegraphs.

57. The headquarters of the Posts and Telegraphs Department are at Berbera.

The revenue and expenditure of the Department in respect of the last five years are as follows :—

	1929.	*1928.*	*1927.* (*nine months*)	*1926.*	*1925.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	1,833	2,360	1,174	1,452	1,137
Expenditure ...	8,519	8,281	6,191	7,447	7,421

58. Until the end of 1886 there was no recognised Post Office in British Somaliland, and the acceptance and distribution of ordinary letters were carried out by the British Agents at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeilah. On 1st January, 1887, the Director-General of the Post Office in India sanctioned the establishment of Post Offices at Berbera and Zeilah. The Indian Post Office Act, 1898, was applied to British Somaliland by an Order of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs dated 9th March, 1903, and the Protectorate Post Office was transferred from the Indian Administration and constituted under the above authority on the 1st June, 1903, the Protectorate becoming a member of the International Postal Union.

59. The operations against the Dervishes in 1903 necessitated the establishment of a number of Field Post Offices, the mails being carried by runners and camel riders. This system was maintained till 1925 for the conveyance of mails between the administrative stations in the interior and, in the absence of railways and motor-cars, proved generally a cheap, reliable, and comparatively speedy service.

In 1925, a weekly motor-car mail service was inaugurated, connecting Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, and Hargeisa. Other places are still served by mail runners.

60. Direct mails, which are exchanged weekly with London, Aden, and Bombay, are carried by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's mail steamers, regular connections

with which are made by local contract steamers between Aden and Berbera. Letters to and from the United Kingdom are delivered within from 12 to 14 days.

61. The issue and payment of British postal orders was introduced in January, 1905, and during the same year arrangements were made with the British and Indian Post Offices for a direct exchange of money orders. In 1907, the cash on delivery and insurance of parcels, and the value payable and insurance of parcels, etc., services were introduced with Great Britain and India including Aden, and in the following year the insured letter service to Great Britain was commenced. The insured box service with Great Britain and certain other countries was introduced in 1926. The direct exchange of money orders with the Kenya and Uganda Administration, which had been introduced in 1910, was suspended in 1921 on account of exchange difficulties. Money orders to and from the East African Dependencies are exchanged through the intermediary of the Aden Post Office.

Telegraphs.

62. The present telegraph administration is the result of evolution from and expansion and improvement of the military telegraphs used in connection with the operations of the Somaliland Field Force in 1903 and subsequently. The system has been improved and expanded with the addition of wireless telegraphy.

A land telegraph line now connects Berbera with Sheikh and Burao, which are also served by telephone.

Wireless stations (1½ kilowatt) are now in operation at Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, Buramo, and Zeilah.

All stations are open to the public for inland and foreign telegraph traffic. The charges are :—

6 annas per word from any Protectorate station to Aden.
2 annas per word to any station within the Protectorate.
Rs. 1–14–0* per word to the United Kingdom.
Rs. 1–6–0* per word to India.

63. In April, 1927, a wireless receiving apparatus for the reception of the British Official News Service transmitted from Rugby was installed and has given satisfaction.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

64. There is no Judicial or Legal Department in the Protectorate. The Criminal Courts consist of the Protectorate Court, District Courts of the first class, and District Courts of the second class. The Governor and Secretary to the Government are the Judges of

* Half this rate is charged for deferred telegrams.

the Protectorate Court. District Courts of the first class are held by Commissioners-in-charge of Districts and such other officers as the Governor may so empower. District Courts of the second class are held by those officers so empowered by the Governor. The District Courts are empowered by law to try all cases in which natives are parties except for sedition, treason or murder. Cases beyond the jurisdiction of the District Courts, or possessing features which make a trial by the Protectorate Court desirable, are committed by the District Court for trial by the Protectorate Court. In cases where appeals lie from judgments of District Courts, the appeal is to the Protectorate Court of Appeal, which is the final Appellate Court in the Protectorate.

65. The law of the Protectorate is :—

(*a*) Coded law, i.e., the Indian Penal Code as applied by the "Somaliland Administration of Criminal Justice Ordinance, 1926," and local Ordinances.

(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan law.

A much stricter legal control is now exercised. In past years, murder and homicide among the natives have been dealt with under tribal customs, but such crimes are now tried by the Criminal Courts. The infliction of the death penalty in particularly aggravated cases has not been without its effect upon native thought; and as the Somali realises that the death penalty may follow conviction for murder, he will doubtless, as time goes on, modify his characteristic light-hearted outlook on the sanctity of human life.

66. In addition to Criminal and Civil cases under (*a*) tribal cases are investigated and judged by District Courts under a mixture of tribal custom, Mohammedan law and Indian law. This work forms the great bulk of the District officers' work as the Somali's inherent love of litigation and refusal to accept any decision except from the highest court of appeal leads to much work of a trivial nature which, if neglected, may result in intertribal fighting. The Kadis deal with cases falling entirely under Mohammedan law and Courts of Akils or Elders have been set up to deal with the less important and contentious of tribal cases.

67. The criminal records for 1929 show an increase in the amount of crime. This may be attributed partly to the destitution in the community caused by the drought and partly to more extensive enforcement of the law.

68. The publication of a volume of the Revised Laws of the Protectorate is in course of preparation.

Police.

69. The Somaliland Civil Police are constituted under "The Somaliland Civil Police Ordinance, 1927."

The Force is under the control of the Governor and has an establishment as under :—

One Commandant,
One Assistant Commandant,
One Pay and Quartermaster,
One Transport Officer,
555 Rank and file ;

who were distributed as follows :—

Berbera District	4 officers and 195 rank and file.
Burao District	54 rank and file.
Nogal	26 rank and file.
Erigavo District	101 rank and file.
Hargeisa District	77 rank and file.
Zeilah District (including Buramo) ...	102 rank and file.

70. Attestation is for six years with option of re-engagement on completion of this period for a further three years. Rank and file are non-pensionable but are eligible for gratuities on completion of 12 years' and 21 years' service.

Training is carried out at headquarters in Berbera, and a musketry course is fired there by all available men. Rank and file in stations other than Berbera are under charge of Commissioners-in-charge of Districts. Reliefs are effected as often as possible from Berbera in order that relieved men can receive training.

Garrison duties are carried out by the force at Berbera, Erigavo, Zeilah, and Buramo.

The police are liable to serve as a military force when called upon by the Governor to discharge military duties.

Prisons.

71. The established prisons in the Protectorate during 1929 were as follows :—

The Central Prison at Berbera,
Five District Prisons at Zeilah, Burao, Hargeisa, Buramo, and Erigavo.

The Central Prison accommodates all convicts sentenced to terms of imprisonment exceeding six months in addition to all prisoners convicted in the Berbera District.

The District Prisons accommodate prisoners convicted within Districts who are sentenced to imprisonment for six months or less.

The Central Prison is administered by the Director of Prisons, and each District Prison by the Commissioner-in-charge of the District.

72. As Berbera Prison is the Central Prison for the whole Protectorate the accommodation and general routine there are more elaborate than in District Prisons. The prison occupies an area of some 6,700 square yards. The whole is surrounded by a wall from 11 to 17 feet high. Accommodation is provided for male, female, and juvenile convicts and for lunatics. In addition to the usual wards and cells, the prison is equipped with a dispensary, two sick wards capable of accommodating four lying-in cases, a workshop and the usual offices. The prison is lighted by electricity.

All prisoners on admission to the prison are medically examined. Their clothing is collected, disinfected, and stored, and after bathing they are issued with clean prison clothing. A blanket is provided for use at nights.

Water is laid on in the prison and an unlimited supply is available for drinking, washing, and sanitary purposes.

Latrines are of the open type and are kept clean by flushing with water after use. Separate latrines are provided for males and females.

Prisoners wash their own clothing and are issued with soap for this purpose.

73. Committals to the Central Prison during 1929 as compared with the two preceding years were as follows :—

Year.	*For want of bail or for debt.*	*For penal imprisonment.*	*Lunatics.*
1929 ...	7	282	9
1928 ...	10	241	15
1927 ...	17	177	10

The increase in committals for penal imprisonment during the year is general throughout the prisons in the country.

This is attributable to the increase of offences against property by persons who have lost their stock through the drought of 1927.

74. The bulk of the labour provided by the prisons is unskilled, and is used on work of public utility, such as road making, quarrying stones, watering trees in Government grounds, etc.

A certain amount of skilled labour is carried out in the Central Prison where long-sentence prisoners are taught to manufacture and repair articles of use to other Departments. The manufacture of cane furniture is the main industry.

The trade classes for carpenters and masons instituted last year have proved most successful, and useful work is now being performed by prisoners under the supervision of the Public Works Department.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

75. A general building programme was carried out at Berbera and the principal stations in the Protectorate. The renewal of the main water supply for Berbera was carried out for a distance of six miles, the remaining two miles being under construction.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

76. The medical staff of the Protectorate consists of the Principal Medical Officer, five medical officers, two wardmasters, one laboratory assistant, three assistant surgeons, five sub-assistant surgeons and subordinate staff. Well equipped hospitals are established at Berbera, Burao, and Hargeisa, and smaller ones at Zeilah, Erigavo, Buramo, and Sheikh. The relief camp for destitutes at Bulhar has a small hospital. A lunatic asylum at Berbera was sanctioned and the building nearly completed by the end of the year. The Leper Asylum is full and will require extension. 42,773 out-patients and 3,502 in-patients were treated during the year 1929. Smallpox was brought into the country in June and is still present. The outbreak was of a severe type—out of a total of 106 cases there were 50 deaths during 1929.

A severe epidemic of malaria affected all the valleys and low ground and during the year there were 1,544 cases reported, of which 1,131 were of the malignant type.

IX.—EDUCATION.

77. The Somalis in general are strenuously opposed to their children receiving any education other than that given by their own Mohammedan priests, which consists chiefly of the recitation of passages from the Koran. There is a small Government elementary school in Berbera attended by Somali, Arab, and Indian children. The average number of pupils during the year was 73. Good reports have been received regarding the six Somali boys referred to in the previous report who were sent to the Gordon College at Khartoum.

Arrangements have now been made for a further development of education on modest lines, based on the methods adopted in the Sudan. This is to take the form of Government assistance towards the payment of teachers in the Koranic schools already in existence, and the purchase of equipment, on the sole condition that the boys shall be taught to read and write in Arabic and to understand simple arithmetic. It is proposed to consider a further extension of this system at the end of a year's time.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

78. All land in the Protectorate except in proclaimed townships may be said to be vested in the Somali tribe. Outside the townships no individual title to land is recognised (except in the case of a few

small religious settlements) nor is any sectional title to any particular area recognised as giving any particular section of the tribe an exclusive right to that area. It is the habit of certain sections always to graze in the same area and this in practice gives them a prescriptive title to that area, but theoretically and legally individuals of other sections have the right to enter such areas and use the grazing as necessity dictates. In the western part of the Protectorate, where large areas of ground are under cultivation, the tribal title has been restricted to the extent that the right of individual cultivators to the enjoyment of the area cultivated is recognised, but only so long as effective cultivation is continued.

Government has taken powers to expropriate land for public purposes, on payment of compensation for damage done thereby to an individual or section. Land so expropriated becomes Crown Land.

The township areas are divided into two classes :—

(*a*) Old established towns on the coast, such as Berbera and Zeilah : and

(*b*) Recently established towns in the interior.

In class (*a*) freehold right to the land could presumably be established by the present owners. Actually, there are no valid deeds of ownership, and the provision of such deeds would entail such heavy work of investigation that the matter has been allowed to remain undefined. In practice, disputes as to ownership seldom arise.

In class (*b*), Government has introduced legislation to give to individuals a valid title to ground. All townships are of such recent growth that, except in five small plots in Hargeisa, no claim to freehold has been established, and leases or temporary occupation licences have been given to such of the present occupiers as wish to secure a legal title to their land.

XI.—LABOUR.

79. The Somali has proved himself to be an intelligent and willing worker if properly led. Government has usually been able to obtain labour at a reasonable cost, but hitherto there has been little or no chance of testing the Somali under private employ.

80. The terms of contract between private employers and local labour are governed by a Master and Servant Ordinance, and an Employer's Liability Ordinance.

The export of unskilled labour from the Protectorate is governed by law and is subject to stringent conditions.

G. J. WELSH,

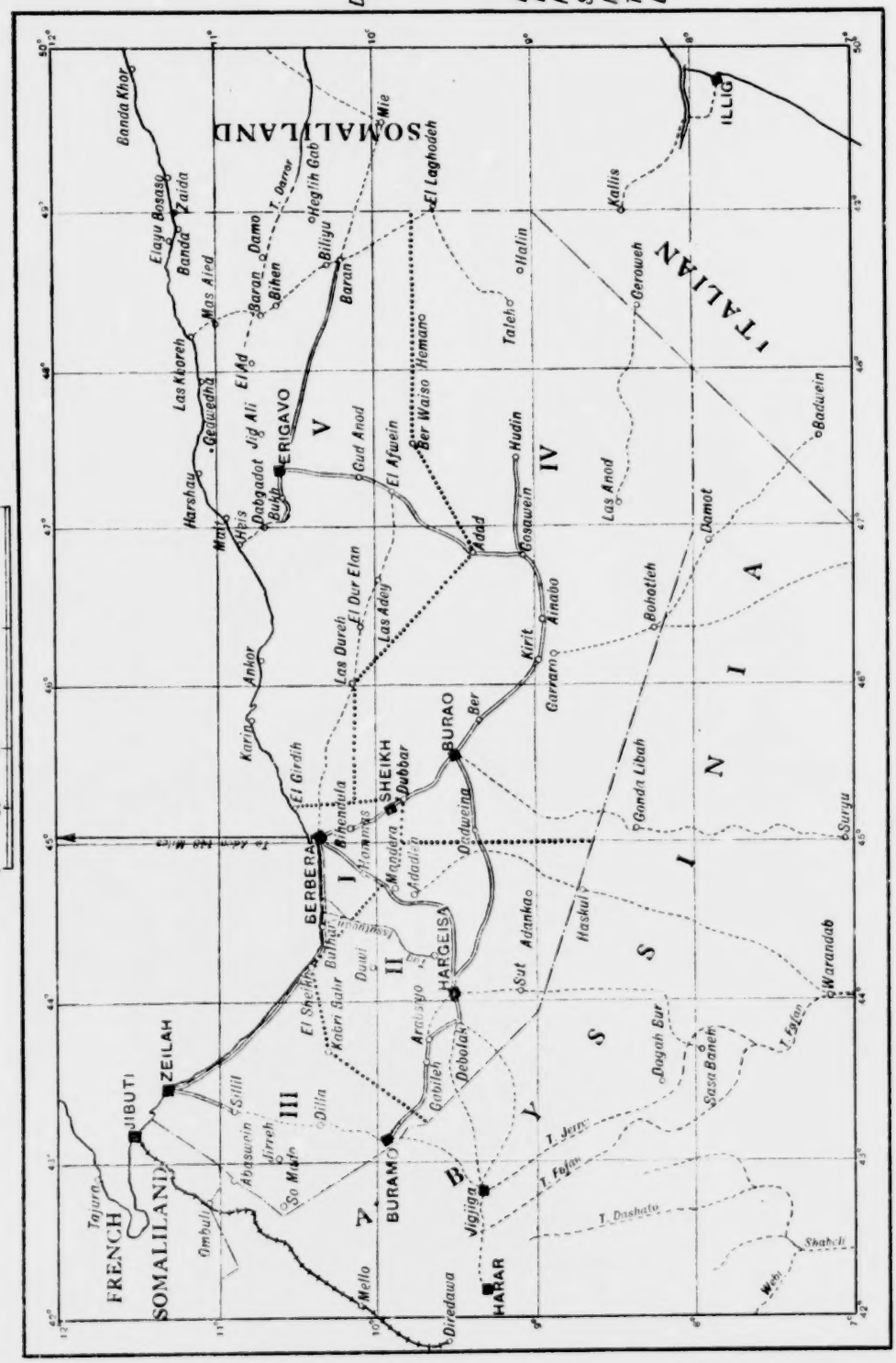
Assistant Secretary to the Government.

THE SECRETARIAT,

BRITISH SOMALILAND.

26*th April*, 1930.

BRITISH SOMALILAND.


Reference:-
Districts:-
I Berbera
II Hargeisa
III Zeila-Buramo
IV Burao
V Erigavo
District Boundaries
Railway
Stations
Motor Roads
Tracks
Boundaries
SCALE OF MILES
0 25 50 100 150
SOMALILAND
ITALIAN
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ABYSSINIA
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ZEILAH
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BURAO
SHEIKH
HARGEISA
BURAMO
ERIGAVO
HARAR
ILLIG
Banda Khor
Elayu Bosaso
Banda
Laida
Las Khoreh
Mas Aied
Barar
Damo
Bihen
Biliyu
Baran
Hegl'ih Gab
El Laghodeh
Kallis
Geroweh
Halin
Taleho
Harshay
Mait
Khris
Dabgadot
Jig Ali
El Ad
Bukh
Gud Anod
El Afwein
Ber Waiso
Hemano
Hudin
Badwein
Damot
Las Anod
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Ankor
Karin
El Girdih
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Ber
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Odweina
Las Aney
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No. 1524.

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ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1930.

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PREFACE.

History.

Prior to 1884 the administration of the Somali Coast had been in the hands of the Egyptian Government. Upon its collapse in 1884, a Protectorate was proclaimed by Great Britain over what is now recognized as British Somaliland, and the boundaries were settled by agreements with France, Italy, and Abyssinia. Until 1898 the Protectorate was administered by the Resident at Aden as a Dependency of the Government of India. In that year it was transferred to the charge of the Foreign Office, and on 1st April, 1905, to the Colonial Office.

From 1901 to 1920 the history of the Protectorate is largely a history of campaigns against Mohammed-bin-Abdulla Hassan, the "Mad Mullah." In 1901, 1902, and 1903, expeditions were sent against the Mullah, and in January, 1904, a crushing defeat was inflicted on him at Jidballeh. He then retired into Italian territory and claimed Italian protection. An agreement was made between

him and the Italian Government, but the Mullah soon disregarded this agreement and commenced further aggressive actions against the tribes under British protection.

In 1908, arrangements were made for another expedition against him, but before the expedition was launched a policy of coastal concentration was adopted. In March, 1910, all troops were withdrawn from the country, except for small garrisons at the three ports of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeilah. This policy did not prove a success, and in 1912-13 the strict coastal concentration was abandoned and administration in the interior gradually resumed. From 1914, desultory fighting continued until 1920, when a combined attack with land and air forces completely scattered the Mullah and his followers and captured all his forts and possessions. The Mullah fled, a broken man, into Abyssinia, where he died in February, 1921.

In recent years, conditions have been peaceful with the exception of inter-tribal cattle raids both in the Protectorate and outside its borders. As indulgence in these is the hereditary pastime of all Somalis, both British-protected and otherwise, they need not be regarded very seriously, as they can be checked, and are being checked, by extension of administration.

Geography.

The Protectorate of British Somaliland has for its northern boundary about 450 miles of coast-line on the Gulf of Aden and extends from Loyi Ada (Hadu), longitude 43° 15′ East, as far as the forty-ninth degree of East longitude, close to the town of Banda Ziada.

The Protectorate marches with Italian Somaliland from Banda Ziada to a point in latitude 8° North; thence with Abyssinia as far as Jalelo, and with French Somaliland from Jalelo to Loyi Ada on the coast.

The area of the Protectorate is about 68,000 square miles. It consists of a coastal plain varying from half a mile to 60 miles in depth, an escarpment precipitous at the eastern end, more gentle in the west, rising from 5,000 feet to 7,000 feet, and an interior plateau sloping gently south and east to Italian Somaliland and the Abyssinian Haud. The coastal plain is hot and the rainfall as a rule is sparse. The escarpment catches the rain and on the summit are to be found areas of cedar forest. The interior plateau consists in the main of level, bush-covered country interspersed with kopjes or even small detached masses of hills and with large open plains free from bush and covered with grass. The country is primarily camel country owing to the scanty water supply, but cattle thrive, especially in the hills, and sheep and goats also do excellently so long as the rainfall is up to the average.

The chief ports are Berbera, Bulhar, Zeilah, and Las Khoreh.

There is a weekly steamer service from Aden, which is worked by local contract, the ships connecting at Aden with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's outward and homeward sailing ships.

Climate.

Somaliland has a small but fairly regular rainfall. The dry season lasts from December to March, during which period there is practically no rain. The bi[illegible]ains fall during April and May and they are succeeded by the S.[illegible]. Monsoon (called locally the *kharif*), which blows from June till October—the hottest period of the year. The *kharif* is very trying to Europeans, particularly on the coast, where the heat and dust make concentrated work difficult.

On the higher ground in the interior the heat is at no time intolerable and the nights are generally cool.

From November to March the climate is quite pleasant, the heat on the coast being tempered by the sea breeze.

The rainfalls in the country are very local and consequently there is often considerable variation in local conditions as to grazing, rainpools, etc.

The Medical Department undertake the collection of meteorological statistics, and these are as follows :—

Station.	*Total Rainfall.*	*Mean Maximum.*	*Mean Minimum.*	*Absolute Maximum Temperature.*	*Absolute Minimum Temperature.*	*Total Rainfall for previous four years.*			
	1930.					*1929.*	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1926.*
	Inches	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Berbera ...	4·63	92·6	78·0	110	65	0·37	1·09	2·02	6·54
Burao ...	6·50	85·4	62·3	100	50	9·25	9·07	9·78	12·30
Sheikh ...	27·02	77·5	57·4	90	41	25·04	19·90	11·70	27·38
Hargeisa ...	20·67	84·8	57·0	96	38	17·07	12·45	14·58	31·91
Zeilah ...	8·83	95·5	75·6	114	65	1·81	3·08	8·42	10·81
Buramo ...	22·55	71·7	57·9	85	38	16·42	15·39	19·79	27·79
Erigavo ...	12·34	77·4	50·2	87	31	11·90	10·50	15·29	18·34

Currency.

The monetary unit is the Government of India rupee. Rupees are legal tender for the payment of any amount and Government of India subsidiary coinage is legal tender for the payment of sums not in excess of five rupees. India Government currency notes are in circulation. The rupee remained throughout the year at a slight discount as compared with the India Government stabilized rate of 1s. 6d.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial standard of weights and measures is in force. The Indian and Somali traders also use certain of the weights and measures in force in British India.

Language.

The language is Somali, but the natives are capable linguists, and English, Arabic, and Hindustani are spoken in the coastal towns.

I.—GENERAL.

The Protectorate is administered by the Governor and in his absence by the Secretary to the Government. There is no Executive or Legislative Council. The powers of the Governor are defined in the Somaliland Order in Council, 1929, which consolidated all previous Orders in Council, omitting matters which had become irrelevant or out of date.

Departments of Government.

The Departments of Government whose headquarters are at Berbera are those dealing with Finance, Police and Prisons, Medical Services, Customs, Posts and Telegraphs, and Public Works. The headquarters of the Veterinary Department are at Burao, and those of the Geological and Agricultural Department are at Hargeisa, where they are nearer the centre of their respective activities.

Military Garrison.

The Military Garrison of the Protectorate consists of the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, with headquarters at Burao and a detachment at Hargeisa.

Two aeroplanes of the Aden Squadron, Royal Air Force, are stationed in Somaliland. Aerodromes are maintained at Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, Hargeisa, Buramo, Zeilah, and Erigavo; and landing grounds at Baran, Aik, Halin, and Las Anod.

District Administration.

For administrative purposes the Protectorate has been divided into five districts each of which is in the charge of a Commissioner. The five districts are :—

Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, and Zeilah.

Royal Visit.

After attending the coronation of the Emperor of Ethiopia at Addis Ababa, His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, K.G., arrived at Berbera on the 4th December in H.M.S. "Dahlia." A *shir* (baraza) was held at Berbera, at which the leading Somali *akils* were presented to His Royal Highness, who also received a number of petitions from certain of the *akils*. The Indian merchants of Berbera presented His Royal Highness with a loyal address and a silver casket. Proceeding to his shooting camp near Hargeisa *via* Burao, where he saw the Camel Corps at work, His Royal Highness had a very successful shoot and embarked at Berbera on the 16th December.

Political Situation.

For the third successive year the country was blessed with an exceptionally good rainfall, with the result that grazing was plentiful and stock continued to thrive.

For the greater part of the year the natives in the east of the Protectorate were pre-occupied with the activities of the Boundary and Claims Commissions, and by the end of March several hundred representatives of various tribes had assembled on the Italian border. The unrest which had been manifest during the last few years, owing to the closing of their grazing grounds in Italian territory, gave way to a feeling of confidence that their ancient rights would be restored, and an unwonted tranquility reigned on the frontier.

The Ain valley was the scene of some unrest. Here a brutal murder was committed with the object of intimidating a certain section which had an interest in assisting the Government to pursue a course of justice. Punitive action was successfully undertaken by a Company of the Camel Corps.

Previous to this murder there had been an affray between three Ishaak sections and two Dolbahanta sections at the wells at Wadamago, resulting in three fatal and several minor casualties. The punitive action mentioned above inculcated a laudable desire to make peace, and the Government order consequent upon the affray, which was not promulgated till after the successful Camel Corps action, was obeyed with unusual alacrity.

A religious dispute between the protagonists of two different sects, which jeopardized the peace, was resolved by the deportation from the Ain area of half a dozen leading *mullahs*.

In the west of Burao district several cases of homicide within the Habr Yunis, rer Ainashie tribe, the killing of a policeman by a section of the same tribe, and the persistent theft of telegraph wire, are the only serious items which have embarrassed the administration.

In the Erigavo district four particularly cold-blooded murders of women occurred between October, 1929, and December, 1930. These, however, had no political significance, and generally speaking the attitude of the tribes may be considered satisfactory.

Abyssinia.

In November His Excellency Sir Harold Kittermaster attended the coronation at Addis Ababa of the Emperor of Ethiopia. While there, opportunity was taken to discuss with the British Minister and the Abyssinian authorities various matters concerning British Somaliland and Abyssinia.

A serious raid was carried out about the middle of the year by the Abyssinian Ogaden against the British Ishaak Somalis, a large quantity of stock being captured. It proved impracticable to

arrange a meeting in order to investigate and settle this and similar claims, owing to the departure of the chief Abyssinian officials to Addis Ababa for the coronation.

Uncertainty as to the boundary on the Western frontier has led to several minor incidents. Towards the end of August our Police held up an Abyssinian tax-collecting party which had crossed into British territory, with the stock they had collected by way of tax. While the British officer and the Abyssinian in charge of the tax-collecting party were discussing matters, some of the Abyssinians moved off with the stock and fired on the police patrol who were trying to prevent their leaving. For a few minutes firing became general. Two, possibly four, Abyssinians were killed, but no casualties were sustained by the Police.

The frontier situation cannot be satisfactory until the boundary has been defined, and a settlement reached regarding the status of the Esa and Gadabursi tribes.

Anglo-Italian Boundary.

Towards the end of the year the British-Italian Boundary Commission completed their work in the field of marking the boundary line between British Somaliland and Italian Somaliland. Certain outstanding questions remain for discussion and decision by the respective home Governments.

The joint sub-commission, which was charged with the work of investigating claims between British and Italian tribes, also brought their difficult task to a conclusion.

For work in connection with the respective commissions, Major J. H. Stafford, M.C., R.E., was awarded the O.B.E. (Military Division), and Major B. H. Horsley, D.S.O., M.C., the O.B.E. (Civil Division).

Drought.

It is to be hoped that this ominous heading will not find a place in future reports. In May, owing to the excellence of the Spring rains and the abundance of milk in the villages, it was found possible to close the famine relief camp at Bulhar.

Travelling through the country at present, with numerous flocks of sheep relieving the colour of the hills, it is difficult to believe that three years ago it was possible to travel a hundred miles, through a depressing odour of decaying animal flesh that would make stock yards smell sweet by comparison, with only an occasional fleck of white to represent the sheep wealth of the country. This industry, if it can be so called, has proved surprisingly resilient, and although the normal has not yet been reached, there is reason to hope that the recovery will be complete within the next two years provided there are no further abnormal conditions to impede progress.

II.—FINANCE.

Although the effect of the prolonged drought of 1927-28 was still being felt and manifested itself in the restricted purchasing power of the natives, the year witnessed a wonderful recovery of the stock position. Rain was plentiful, and sheep, goats, cattle, and camels all increased to a surprising extent. It is anticipated that if the skin markets in Europe and America recover from the present slump the ensuing year's revenue will approach normal.

Revenue.

The revenue of the Protectorate for the year amounted to Rs.14,04,053 (£105,304), showing a decrease of Rs.6,361 (£477) as compared with the collections of the previous year. The principal sources of revenue were as follow :—

Customs, Rs.9,77,200 (£73,290), a decrease of Rs.83,832 (£6,287).

Licences, Excise, etc., Rs.1,76,064 (£13,205), an increase of Rs. 13,382 (£1,004).

Fees of Court, etc., Rs.98,312 (£7,373), a decrease of Rs.1,325 (£100).

Posts and Telegraphs, Rs.21,691 (£1,627), a decrease of Rs.2,751 (£206).

Revenue from Government Property, Rs.10,323 (£774); an increase of Rs.4,230 (£317).

The revenue decrease of £6,287 under Customs is explained in the previous paragraph : apart from this, collections were very satisfactory.

The revenue of the Protectorate for the last five years is as follows :—

	£	
1926-1927, April to March ...	90,569	Re.1=Shillings 1s. 4d.
1927	124,452	Re.1=Shillings 1s. 6d.
1928	157,487	
1929	105,781	
1930	105,304	

Public Debt.

The net sum due by the Protectorate to the Imperial Treasury on 31st December, 1930, was £169,000. This sum represents the total of loans-in-aid of civil expenditure for the period 1921/1930. The loan-in-aid received in 1930 was £35,000. The total of loans-in-aid is subject to repayment with interest as and when the finances of the Protectorate permit. No repayment has yet been made.

In addition to the loan-in-aid the Protectorate is in receipt of an annual free grant-in-aid of actual military expenditure. The grant paid in 1930 was £50,000. The total sum granted since 1st April, 1921, is £530,000.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year was Rs.26,53,690 (£199,027) as compared with a total of Rs.27,60,890 (£207,067) for 1929.

Of the year's expenditure some £4,168 was expended in the early part of the year on direct famine relief and £6,449 of the total represents amounts disbursed on works under the Colonial Development Act. The latter sum is repayable.

The expenditure of the Protectorate for the last five years was as follows :—

	Civil.	*Military.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£
1926–27, April to March	100,175	48,950	149,125
1927	116,617	54,490	171,107
1928	135,003	63,625	198,628
1929	152,614	54,453	207,067
1930	144,444	54,583	199,027

Financial Position on 31st December, 1930.

The abstract of revenue and expenditure is as follows :—

		£
Surplus on 1st January, 1930		34,365
Revenue :—		
Civil	£ 104,652	
Military	652	105,304
Loan/Grant paid over during the year		85,000
		£224,669

		£
Expenditure :—		
Civil	£ 144,444	
Military	54,583	199,027
Surplus at 31st December, 1930		25,642
		£224,669

Banking.

There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a branch of the commercial firm of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, Bombay, accepts deposits from private individuals, cashes cheques drawn on them, and arranges the transfer of funds to the United Kingdom and elsewhere through a branch of the firm at Aden.

There are no banking laws in force.

Under the authority of the Savings Bank Ordinance, 1930, a Government Savings Bank was opened in the Treasury, Berbera, on 5th June, 1930. Interest at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum was paid on deposits in 1930. The total of balances due to depositors at 31st December, 1930, was Rs.13,560 (£1,017). A loss of Rs.436 (£33) appeared on the seven months' working; this was due to the initial purchases of passbooks, stationery, etc.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

The past year has been exceptional. Not only was the rainfall well above normal, but the rains began in January, nearly four months before the usual time, and continued, with few prolonged dry periods, until November. As a result there was an increase in the number of crops compared with the last three years, the crops themselves have on the whole been uniformly good, grass has been plentiful, especially in the grazing areas of the western part of the country, and the stock has been in good condition throughout the year.

Maize, a yellow drought-resisting Abyssinian variety, has been cultivated on a much larger scale than formerly, many plot-holders growing it over at least a quarter of their holding and a few growing it wholly in place of sorghum. In some instances, excellent crops of the grain were obtained, but the poor quality of some of the hillside soil and the shallow ploughing caused, here and there, stunting or drying off of the crops.

Specially worthy of mention is the start made during the year in the cultivation of gram. Propaganda through headmen, and by demonstration, with the object of bringing about the cultivation of a legume in addition to or in place of sorghum and maize has been carried on quietly for three years. Gram has been specially mentioned as worthy of trial from the native point of view, as a local market could be made for it, and it would always be of considerable value in stock nutrition. During the past season, several plot-holders on the better class soils have successfully grown a small crop, and applications have been made for seed for the incoming year.

If this innovation becomes established, it will have a far-reaching effect on native agriculture. Amongst other improvements, it will promote soil fertility, will lead to a desire for better tillage and cultivation, will render possible a rotation of crops, make easier the introduction of a few other desirable plants, and broaden the native view of the meaning and scope of agriculture.

The frequency with which requests are made for the hire of the Government ploughing outfit is evidence that a certain number of native garden-owners are convinced of the advantages of the modern

plough over the native one, and there is reason to believe that if a plough, as good as the previous one introduced but somewhat cheaper, could be obtained, very little propaganda would be required to distribute it in considerable numbers. An implement of the type required is already in view.

In the main experimental plot, trials were made of several imported varieties of plant seeds and a fair proportion of these were successfully grown in spite of the fact that half the year's rain had fallen before ploughing. Potato trials were especially successful. In the orchard plot, some excellent crops were obtained.

Locust visitations have been much less numerous than in the two preceding years. In the western districts, the damage done to crops has been almost negligible. In the east and south-east of the Protectorate several large swarms and occasional large bands of hoppers were reported, but the damage done to vegetation and grazing areas was not noticeably large. From the persistence, however, of these swarms and the regular appearance of large bands of hoppers, it would seem that a permanent breeding ground exists in the south-eastern district.

An important part of the work of the year has been the marking-out, posting, classification, and surveying of the agricultural areas of the Hargeisa district, and the preparation of a map on a fairly large scale which will show the position of all the areas with reference to each other and to the main roads, tracks, *tugs*, and prominent physical features. The objects that will be gained by this work are many. Amongst them are :—the arrest of shifting cultivation by the localization of the plot-owners in recognized areas; the arrest of indiscriminate cutting down of the savannah timber; the differentiation of agricultural and grazing areas; much easier supervision of the agricultural lands and native cultivation; and easier future differentiation of good and poor quality land. It is, in fact, a major step in the organization of native agriculture.

Veterinary.

During the year the country has been entirely free of rinderpest except for one small focus which was quickly and efficiently dealt with by double inoculation. The outbreak occurred in a herd which had contracted the disease in Abyssinia and come over the border into this country.

Pleuro-pneumonia has been in existence during the whole year, but has been controlled in two quarantine camps. The outbreak of *surra* reported at the end of 1929 took on the form of an epidemic, spreading to animals in the Somaliland Camel Corps. Microscopic and mercuric chloride tests were made throughout the camels of the Camel Corps, and all reactors segregated and treated with naganol. Up to date the results have been very satisfactory.

During the last two months of the year native animals were being treated on payment, and results are such that the Somalis are beginning to welcome treatment for their animals.

There have been no other epidemics of any importance. The general condition of the stock throughout the country is excellent, and the climatic conditions have been very good. The herds and flocks have now recovered from the effects of the famine and the outlook for animal husbandry is distinctly good.

Fisheries.

Although tropical fish of every variety, such as shark, great and small rays, baracuda and other sphyraenae, durab or wolf herring, dolphins, sea perches, sword fish, rock cod, different species of sardinella, tunny, mullets, horse mackerel, king fish, crawfish, and bêche-de-mer (trepang) are abundant, yet the few natives engaged in the fishery industry use only a handline with a single hook for trolling and bottom fishing and a light casting net to obtain bait. There is no co-operation between them and they sail out in their canoes to the fishing grounds only when dire necessity compels them. If one is exceptionally successful and realizes a substantial profit, he ceases to labour for as many days as it would have taken him to accumulate this sum from his average daily earnings. Consequently, the local supply of edible fish vended in the towns is considerably less than the actual demand. A few passing shark-fishing dhows, manned by Arabs, Sudanese, and Dankalis, occasionally stop at the ports to net sharks in the harbour and in the deep sea. After completing the operation of salting the fins for the Chinese market and the flesh for the consumption of their countrymen, and extracting the "*seefa*" or liver oil which is used for caulking native craft, they resume their voyage.

Since foreign dhows have been excluded from fishing within the French and Italian territorial waters, a number of native smacks has been withdrawn from the mother-of-pearl and trochee shell fisheries. Within the limit to which the divers are now restricted, they cannot collect a sufficient quantity to realize a profit. Although the gamble of obtaining a valuable gem after opening thousands of mother-of-pearl shells always will be an incentive to engage in the industry, yet it is from the sale of the empty shells that the divers derive their maintenance.

Minerals.

Owing to the amount of important agricultural work that it has been necessary to undertake during the remainder of the year, there have been no opportunities for the resumption of mineral survey or strictly geological work. While on leave in the early part of the year, the Director spent considerable time in collaboration with a firm of consulting engineers preparing a report

on the geology, water supply possibilities, and local conditions of the Protectorate for the information of the Colonial Development Committee.

The survey party of the Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Company completed the investigation of their concession. According to their report to the Company, the prospects of profitable exploitation of oil in the Protectorate were, unfortunately, unfavourable.

A water supply party financed through the Government by a grant from the Colonial Development Fund began boring operations near Zeilah township towards the end of the year.

The holder of the salt concession at Zeilah found himself forced to abandon the project, chiefly owing to the uncertainty regarding the Indian policy as to the import of salt, and consequent lack of financial support.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

Sea Customs.

The value of the Protectorate sea-borne trade during the year 1930 was Rs.82,74,261 contrasted with Rs.94,60,480 in 1929. The following comparative table shows the value of the imports and exports excluding specie, during the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.* Rs.	*Exports.* Rs.	*Total.* Rs.
1926	44,59,650	36,88,710	81,48,360
1927	57,21,663	48,89,120	106,10,783
1928	82,51,443	75,26,270	157,77,713
1929	62,75,587	31,84,893	94,60,480
1930	49,27,166	33,47,095	82,74,261

Imports.

The import trade in 1930, excluding specie to the value of Rs.26,200, was distributed in the following proportions between the four Protectorate ports :—

Ports.	*Amount.* Rs.	*Percentage.*				
		1926.	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*
Berbera ...	39,94,751	58·8	61·6	62·1	71·8	81·1
Bulhar ...	73,110	5·3	3·3	3·6	4·8	1·5
Zeilah... ...	6,60,813	32·8	32·1	30·2	18·7	13·4
Makhir Coast...	1,98,492	3·1	3·0	4·1	4·7	4·0

The following were the articles which principally contributed to the total value :—

Article.	*Country of Origin.*	*Unit.*	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*
American Grey Sheeting.	America via Aden.	Yds.	166,440	1,800	9,750	38,410	18,150
China Grey Sheeting.	China via Aden.	,,	32,300	6,300	—	—	—
Japan Grey Sheeting.	Japan via Aden.	,,	2,466,010	3,151,960	2,161,230	1,546,265	2,720,773
(Indian Grey Sheeting.)	India via Aden.	,,	—	—	—	52,500	—
European White Long Cloth.	Manchester via Aden.	,,	1,399,902	1,990,723	1,036,510	1,071,248	1,430,910
Dates ...	Persian Gulf via Aden.	Cwt.	47,761	46,358	121,592	51,395	45,445
Rice ...	India via Aden	,,	56,259	100,515	208,462	183,686	127,944
Sugar ...	Java, Mauritius and Trieste via Aden.		31,762	49,302	69,612	43,823	21,127

The Japanese mills have attained absolute supremacy in the grey sheeting market, where they have sustituted their heavier and less durable cloth " Japhan " for the American textile known as " Americani " throughout Africa. There was never much demand for the manufacture of the China and Indian mills and the shippers eventually realized that it was unprofitable to continue the importation. The quantity of 52,500 yards of the Indian product was an incidental shipment unloaded at Berbera last year to clear it from a port where it was unsaleable. Although Japan is strenuously endeavouring to obtain a hold on the white sheeting trade in these regions by the inducement to the wholesale dealers of a cheaper rate and long and easy credit yet the Manchester fabric still maintains the monopoly, the retention of which, however, will depend on the difference between the present and the future prices. The decreased importations of sugar, dates, and rice were due to the restrictions on consignments imposed by merchants who held excessive stocks.

EXPORTS.

The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.63,680, amounted to Rs.33,47,095 and was distributed in the following proportions between the four Protectorate ports :—

Ports.	*Amount Rs.*	*Percentage.*				
		1926.	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*
Berbera ...	24,10,192	56·0	54·9	57·9	61·3	72·0
Bulhar... ...	3,597	9·4	6·9	4·5	6·9	0·1
Zeilah	7,47,389	28·3	31·9	34·3	25·6	22·3
Makhir Coast...	1,85,917	6·3	6·3	3·3	6·2	5·6

The following were the main indigenous products shipped from the Protectorate :—

Article.	*Country of destination.*	*Unit.*	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*
Bullocks...	Aden and Suez	Nos.	1,008	1,340	877	563	2,102
Sheep and Goats.	A few to Mukalla and Suez but majority to Aden.	„	126,280	120,123	74,543	60,079	76,127
Skins (sheep and goats).	Europe, America via Aden.	„	1,066,702	1,754,548	3,773,940	981,428	810,131
Hides ...	do.	Cwt.	181	130	2,404	2,832	71
Gums and Resins.	Europe, India via Aden.	„	6,766	5,047	14,678	16,759	13,261
Ghee ...	Aden ...	„	3,693	4,939	1,168	1,059	5,745

The trade in sheep and goat skins being entirely dependent on requisitions from America and Europe, the extent of the demand of the tanners and leather manufacturers in those countries controls the local business. It is only when a drought occurs that an appreciable number of hides is brought from the interior for exportation. As Aden is now the only market for livestock the Somalis rid themselves of their superabundant flocks by shipments greatly exceeding the demand and counterbalance the resultant cheapness by additional numbers to augment the small gain and obtain gradually an adequate profit.

Land Customs.

ZEILAH.

The statistics of the land customs station from 1926-1930 are—

IMPORTS.

Item.	*Unit.*	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930*
Millet (Sorghum) ...	Cwt. ...	955	661	87½	—	1
Wheat	„ ...	—	43	8½	—	—

EXPORTS.

Horses	Nos. ...	—	—	15	6	3
Camels	„ ...	—	18	138	207	198
Donkeys	„ ...	—	—	2	2	15
Cattle...	„ ...	827	934	759	1,554	1,807
Sheep and Goats ...	„ ...	4,905	7,421	7,675	6,341	9,853
Salt	Cwt. ...	19,089	15,903	14,736	7,470	8,356

Salt.—The condition of the salt industry is evident from the fluctuations which have occurred since 1926 :—

	Quantity Exported.		
Year.	*By land.* Cwt.	*By sea.* Cwt.	*Total.* Cwt.
1926	19,089	22,444	41,533
1927	15,903	31,432	47,335
1928	14,736	18,822	33,558
1929	7,470	54,528	61,998
1930	8,356	12,282	20,638

The gradual extension of the Jibuti Salt Works, the consequent ability of the Company to dispense with lesser supplies from extraneous sources to augment the output, and the preferential wagonage rate conceded to the Company by the French Railway are circumstances tending towards exclusive control over the Abyssinian market. The eventual effect on Zeilah in its existing condition is the inevitable result which occurs when there is rivalry between a primitive industry carried on in a crude and haphazard manner by individual and ignorant natives and one inaugurated on modern and scientific methods by a European Company and conducted under the supervision of European experts. That the Ethiopian Government has granted the Company the monopoly of salt in Abyssinian territory is a stimulus to the earlier accomplishment of the scheme because the experience of the actual requirements of the country and of the most suitable distributing centres will be utilized when the monopoly ceases. Its immediate effects are the reduction by 33.4 per cent. of the

Zeilah output by land and sea and the withdrawal of a British Company which was being formed for the construction of modern salt works to equalize the competition with Jibuti in a country able to absorb the output from both sources.

HARGEISA AND BURAMO.

At Hargeisa duty amounting to Rs.205-11-0 was collected on 1,028 akaras or bundles of *Kat* (*Katha Edulis*) imported from Abyssinia and at Buramo differential duty to the amount of Rs.19/- was paid on goods originally imported by sea. In 1929 the corresponding items were Rs.152/- (750 akaras) and Rs.470/-.

Transit Trade.

Customs duty at the rate of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* is levied on merchandise in transit between the Protectorate and Abyssinia. The value of goods thus imported and exported since 1926 was :—

	Rs.
1926	9,00,783
1927	14,63,849
1928	13,89,665
1929	10,78,879
1930	15,71,792

The following table shows the amount and value of the more important imports which in 1930 were re-exported in transit to Abyssinia :—

	Amount.	*Value.*
		Rs.
American grey sheeting ...	18,000 yds.	6,100
Japan grey sheeting ...	1,704,600 yds.	4,40,120
Europe white long cloth	293,400 yds.	1,30,230
Rice	484½ cwt.	5,660
Sugar	7,132 cwt.	85,584

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

The following is a comparative table of the steam and motor vessels and country craft shipping which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the last five years :—

	1926.		*1927.*		*1928.*		*1929.*		*1930.*	
	Nos.	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*
Entered ...	504	39,920	666	51,682	740	87,065	909	85,498	510	59,327
Cleared ...	511	40,870	651	50,861	722	85,936	926	85,125	504	60,091

Roads.

No railways have been constructed in the Protectorate but there are 843 miles of motorable roads and tracks—divided into trunk roads and district roads, the former under the supervision of the Public Works Department and the latter maintained by the District Commissioners. These are suitable for general traffic and mechanical transport of medium weight.

The arterial roads of the Protectorate are :—

(1) Berbera—Sheikh—Burao—Ainabo—Adad—El Afweina —Erigavo—Baran.
(2) Berbera—Hargeisa—Nabadid—Buramo.
(3) Burao—Oadweina—Hargeisa.
(4) Zeilah—Loyi (French Frontier).
(5) Zeilah—Arahales.

The mileage of the various roads is as follows :—

	Miles.
Berbera—Dubar	7
Berbera—Upper Sheikh	50
Sheikh—Burao	38
Burao—Ainabo	81
Ainabo—Adad	52
Adad—El Afweina	47
El Afweina—Erigavo	56
Erigavo—Baran	108
Berbera—Hargeisa	110
Hargeisa—Buramo *via* Nabadid	76
Nabadid—Tug Wajaleh (Abyssinian Frontier) ...	13
Berbera—Bulhar	43
Zeilah—Loyi (French Frontier)	18
Burao—Hargeisa	114
Zeilah—Arahalas	30
	843

The increase of traffic noticed during 1929 has been well maintained between Berbera and Hargeisa and Berbera and Burao. There is little, if any, improvement in the introduction of British-made cars into the Protectorate by commercial firms. Out of 50 licensed motor cars in use 27 are Chevrolets.

The number of Government motor vehicles was as follows :—

25-cwt. Morris Commercial	5
Morris Oxford (Governor's car)	1
Ford Box cars (1 at Berbera, 1 Hargeisa)	2

The total mileage of the motor transport was as under :—

Morris Commercial	48,352

Posts and Telegraphs.

The headquarters of the Posts and Telegraphs Department are at Berbera.

The revenue and expenditure of the Department in respect of the last five years are as follows :—

	1930.	*1929.*	*1928.*	*1927.* (*nine months*)	*1926.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	1,627	1,833	2,360	1,174	1,452
Expenditure ...	8,889	8,519	8,281	6,191	7,447

Until the end of 1886 there was no recognized Post Office in British Somaliland, and the acceptance and distribution of ordinary letters were carried out by the British Agents at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeilah. On 1st January, 1887, the Director-General of the Post Office in India sanctioned the establishment of Post Offices at Berbera and Zeilah. The Indian Post Office Act, 1898, was applied to British Somaliland by an Order of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs dated 9th March, 1903, and the Protectorate Post Office was transferred from the Indian Administration and constituted under the above authority on the 1st June, 1903, the Protectorate becoming a member of the International Postal Union.

The operations against the Dervishes in 1903 necessitated the establishment of a number of Field Post Offices, the mails being carried by runners and camel riders. This system was maintained till 1925 for the conveyance of mails between the administrative stations in the interior and, in the absence of railways and motor cars, proved generally a cheap, reliable, and comparatively speedy service.

In 1925, a weekly motor car mail service was inaugurated, connecting Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, and Hargeisa. Other places are still served by mail runners.

Direct mails, which are exchanged weekly with London, Aden, and Bombay, are carried by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's mail steamers, regular connections with which are made by local contract steamers between Aden and Berbera. Letters to and from the United Kingdom are delivered within from 12 to 14 days.

The issue and payment of British postal orders was introduced in January, 1905, and during the same year arrangements were made with the British and Indian Post Offices for a direct exchange of money orders. In 1907, the cash on delivery and insurance of parcels, and the value payable and insurance of parcels, etc., services were introduced with Great Britain and India including Aden, and in the following year the insured letter service to Great Britain was commenced. The insured box service with Great Britain and certain other countries was introduced in 1926. The direct exchange of money orders with the Kenya and Uganda Administration, which had been introduced in 1910, was suspended

in 1921 on account of exchange difficulties. Money orders to and from the East African Dependencies are exchanged through the intermediary of the Aden Post Office.

Telegraphs.

The present telegraph administration is the result of evolution from and expansion and improvement of the military telegraphs used in connection with the operations of the Somaliland Field Force in 1903 and subsequently. The system has been improved and expanded with the addition of wireless telegraphy.

A land telegraph line now connects Berbera with Sheikh and Burao, which are also served by telephone.

Wireless stations (1½ kilowatt) are now in operation at Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, Buramo, and Zeilah.

All stations are open to the public for inland and foreign telegraph traffic. The charges are :—

5 annas per word from any Protectorate station to Aden, plus 8 annas for twenty words and 4 annas for every additional ten words.

2 annas per word to any station within the Protectorate.

Rs.1-11-0* per word to the United Kingdom.

Rs.1-3-0* per word to India.

In April, 1927, a wireless receiving apparatus for the reception of the British Official News Service transmitted from Rugby was installed and has given satisfaction.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There is no Judicial or Legal Department in the Protectorate. The Criminal Courts consist of the Protectorate Court, District Courts of the first class, and District Courts of the second class. The Governor and Secretary to the Government are the judges of the Protectorate Court. District Courts of the first class are held by Commissioners-in-charge of Districts and such other officers as the Governor may so empower. District Courts of the second class are held by those officers so empowered by the Governor. The District Courts are empowered by law to try all cases in which natives are parties except for sedition, treason or murder. Cases beyond the jurisdiction of the District Courts, or possessing features which make a trial by the Protectorate Court desirable, are committed by the District Court for trial by the Protectorate Court. In cases where appeals lie from judgments of District Courts, the appeal is to the Protectorate Court of Appeal, which is the final Appellate Court in the Protectorate.

* Half this rate is charged for deferred telegrams.

The law of the Protectorate is :—

(*a*) Coded law, i.e., the Indian Penal Code as applied by the Somaliland Administration of Criminal Justice Ordinance (Chapter 4 of the Revised Edition of the Laws), and local Ordinances.

(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan law.

A much stricter legal control is now exercised. In past years, murder and homicide among the natives have been dealt with under tribal customs, but such crimes are now tried by the Criminal Courts. The infliction of the death penalty in particularly aggravated cases has not been without its effect upon native thought; and as the Somali realizes that the death penalty may follow conviction for murder, he will doubtless, as time goes on, modify his characteristic light-hearted outlook on the sanctity of human life.

In addition to Criminal and Civil cases under (*a*) tribal cases are investigated and judged by District Courts under a mixture of tribal custom, Mohammedan law and Indian law. This work forms the great bulk of the District Officers' work as the Somali's inherent love of litigation and refusal to accept any decision except from the highest court of appeal leads to much work of a trivial nature which, if neglected, may result in intertribal fighting. The Kadis deal with cases falling entirely under Mohammedan law and Courts of Akils or Elders have been set up to deal with the less important and contentious of tribal cases.

Crime.

Although there were seven convictions for murder recorded in 1930, as against four in 1929, there was a marked decrease in all other branches of crime, save for a small increase in the number of miscellaneous minor offences. The number of convictions for offences against the person dropped from 198 in 1929 to 138 in 1930, and offences against property from 492 to 134. The number of *dia* cases, i.e., inter-tribal killings settled according to tribal custom, was 27, an increase of fifteen over the figure for the previous year. This was only to be expected, bearing in mind the sustained good rains, and consequent amount of milk available for the fighting men, and the axiom referred to in last year's report that the young Somali's instinct, as soon as he is well fed, is to raid someone, a pastime liable, naturally, to result in a little blood-letting.

The printing of the Revised Laws was finished at the end of the year, and the volumes will be available early in 1931.

Police.

The Somaliland Civil Police are constituted under "The Somaliland Civil Police Ordinance" (Chapter 22 of the Revised Edition of the Laws).

The Force is under the control of the Governor and has an establishment of five European Officers and some 550 other ranks.

Training is carried out at headquarters in Berbera, and a musketry course is fired there by all available men. Rank and file in stations other than Berbera are under charge of Commissioners-in-charge of Districts. Reliefs are effected as often as possible from Berbera in order that relieved men can receive training.

Garrison duties are carried out by the force at Berbera, Erigavo, Zeilah, and Buramo.

The police are liable to serve as a military force when called upon by the Governor to discharge military duties.

Prisons.

The established prisons in the Protectorate during 1930 were as follows :—

The Central Prison in Berbera,
Five District Prisons at Zeilah, Burao, Hargeisa, Buramo, and Erigavo.

The Central Prison accommodates all convicts sentenced to terms of imprisonment exceeding six months in addition to all prisoners convicted in the Berbera District.

The District Prisons accommodate prisoners convicted within Districts who are sentenced to imprisonment for six months or less.

In 1930 the Commandant of Police was appointed Director of Prisons with powers of inspection of all prisons in the Protectorate, and further with power to appoint a European officer, subject to the approval of the Governor, to be in responsible charge of the Berbera Prison for the purpose of carrying out the regulations made under the Prison Discipline Ordinance, 1918. The administration of District Prisons remained in the hands of Commissioners-in-Charge of Districts.

As Berbera Prison is the Central Prison for the whole of the Protectorate the accommodation and general routine there are more elaborate than in District Prisons. The Central Prison occupies an area of some 6,700 square yards, the whole being surrounded by a stone wall from 11 to 17 feet high. Accommodation is provided for male, female, and juvenile convicts. In addition to the usual wards and cells, the prison is equipped with a dispensary, two sick wards capable of accommodating four lying-in cases, a workshop, and the usual offices. The prison is lighted by electricity.

With the completion of the lunatic asylum early in 1930, lunatics were transferred to the Medical Department.

Committals to the Central Prison during 1930, as compared with the two preceding years, were as follows :—

Year.	*For want of bail or for debt.*	*For penal imprisonment.*
1930	12	178
1929	7	282
1928	10	241

The bulk of the labour provided by the prisoners is unskilled, and is used on work of public utility such as road making, quarrying stones, watering trees in Government grounds, etc.

A certain amount of skilled labour is carried out in the Central Prison where long-sentence prisoners are taught to manufacture and repair articles of use to other departments. The manufacture of cane furniture for the Public Works Department is the main industry.

The trade classes for carpenters and masons instituted in 1928 still continue to be most successful and the numbers attending these classes have been increased. The instructors are skilled artisans employed by the Public Works Department.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

A general building programme was carried out at all the more important stations in the Protectorate.

The most important works completed during the year were the Lunatic Asylum at Berbera, and the new 6" water main from Dubar to Berbera.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The medical staff of the Protectorate consists of the Principal Medical Officer, six medical officers, one wardmaster, one laboratory assistant, three assistant surgeons, five sub-assistant surgeons, and subordinate staff. Well equipped hospitals are established at Berbera, Burao, Hargeisa, Erigavo, and Buramo, and smaller ones at Zeilah and Sheikh, and a dispensary at Bulhar. Thanks to good rains and grazing during the first few months of the year and the resulting improved condition of the stock and the people generally, it was found possible to disband the Relief Camp for destitutes at Bulhar, and deficiency diseases, e.g., beri-beri and scurvy have greatly diminished. The Lunatic Asylum at Berbera has been completed and in operation since May—there have been 21 admissions, 10 cases having been transferred from the Central Prison where they had been previously housed. A new building consisting of two large wards has been added to the leper settlement and there is now ample accommodation for all the known lepers of

the Protectorate. At the hospitals 41,555 out-patients and 2,901 in-patients were treated during 1930. Smallpox of a severe type continued and of 109 cases 55 died. Towards the end of the year it had practically disappeared except along the Abyssinian frontier from which country it had been re-introduced. Malaria was more prevalent than ever—of 1,916 cases investigated throughout the country, 657 were treated as in-patients in the hospitals with 11 deaths.

IX.—EDUCATION.

The Somalis in general are strenuously opposed to their children receiving any education other than that given by their own Mohammedan priests, which consists chiefly of the recitation of passages from the Koran. There is a small Government elementary school in Berbera attended by Somali, Arab, and Indian children. The average number of pupils during the year was 76. Good reports continue to be received regarding the six Somali boys referred to in the previous report who were sent to the Gordon College, Khartoum.

Arrangements were made for a further development of education on modest lines, based on the methods adopted in the Sudan. This took the form of Government assistance towards the payment of teachers in the Koranic schools already in existence, and the purchase of equipment, on the sole condition that the boys shall be taught to read and write in Arabic and to understand simple arithmetic. The schools will be inspected early in 1931.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

All land in the Protectorate except in proclaimed townships may be said to be vested in the Somali tribe. Outside the townships no individual title to land is recognized (except in the case of a few small religious settlements) nor is any sectional title to any particular area recognized as giving any particular section of the tribe an exclusive right to that area. It is the habit of certain sections always to graze in the same area and this in practice gives them a prescriptive title to that area, but theoretically and legally individuals of other sections have the right to enter such areas and use the grazing as necessity dictates. In the western part of the Protectorate, where large areas of ground are under cultivation, the tribal title has been restricted to the extent that the right of individual cultivators to the enjoyment of the area cultivated is recognized, but only so long as effective cultivation is continued.

Government has taken powers to expropriate land for public purposes, on payment of compensation for damage done thereby to an individual or section. Land so expropriated becomes Crown Land.

The township areas are divided into two classes :—

(*a*) Old established towns on the coast, such as Berbera and Zeilah ; and

(*b*) Recently established towns in the interior.

In class (*a*) freehold right to the land could presumably be established by the present owners. Actually, there are no valid deeds of ownership, and the provision of such deeds would entail such heavy work of investigation that the matter has been allowed to remain undefined. In practice, disputes as to ownership seldom arise.

In class (*b*), Government has introduced legislation to give to individuals a valid title to ground. All townships are of such recent growth that, except in five small plots in Hargeisa, no claim to freehold has been established, and leases or temporary occupation licences have been given to such of the present occupiers as wish to secure a legal title to their land.

XI.—LABOUR.

The Somali has proved himself to be an intelligent and willing worker if properly led. Government has usually been able to obtain labour at a reasonable cost, but hitherto there has been little or no chance of testing the Somali under private employ.

The terms of contract between private employers and local labour are governed by a Master and Servant Ordinance, and an Employer's Liability Ordinance.

The export of unskilled labour from the Protectorate is governed by law and is subject to stringent conditions.

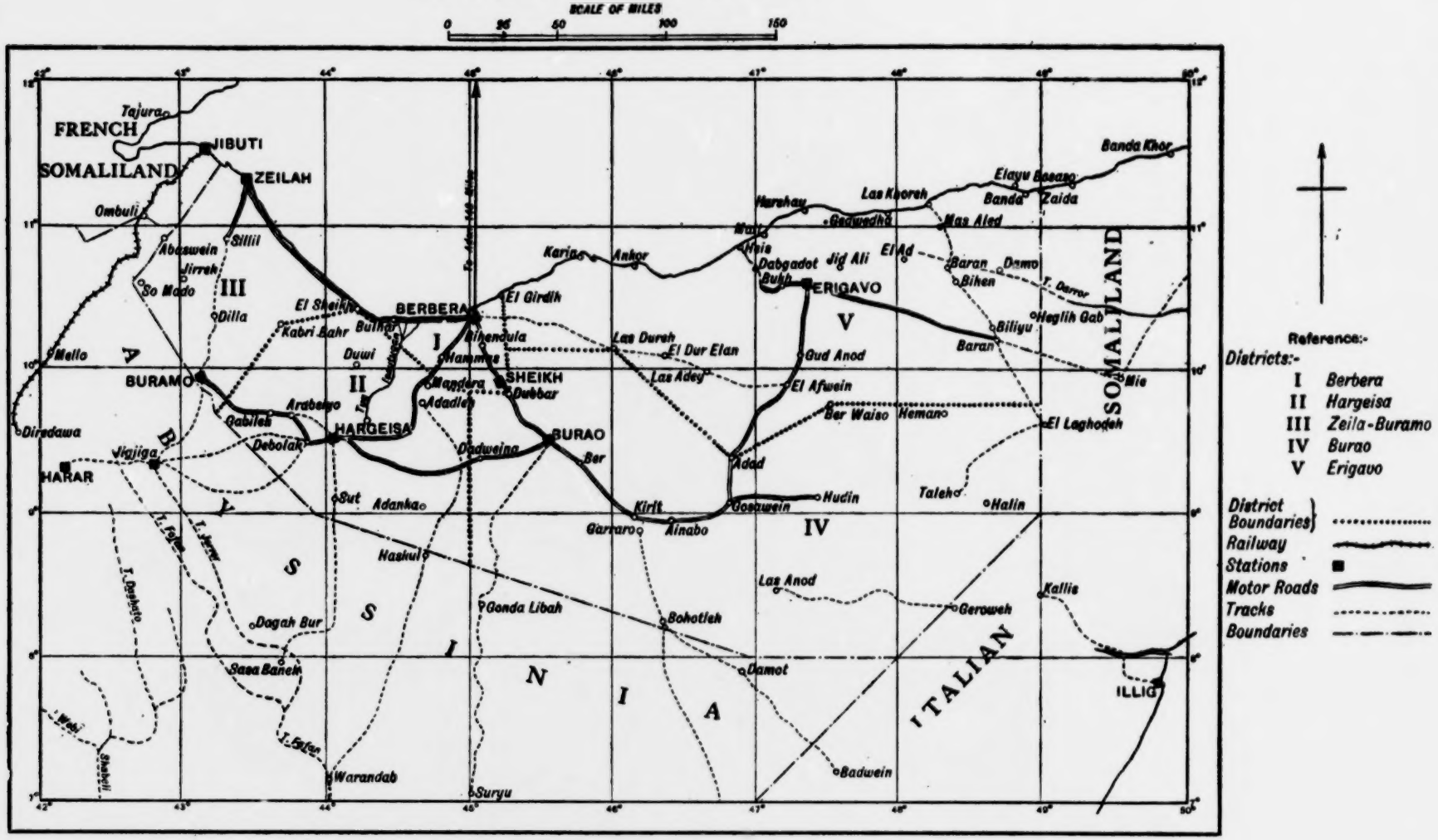
XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

H.M.S. *Effingham*, the flagship of the East Indies Squadron, was lying off Berbera from the 30th October till the 10th November, and again from the 12th till the 14th November.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Harold Kittermaster, K.B.E., C.M.G., proceeded on leave on the 16th December, on which date Major A. S. Lawrance, D.S.O., Secretary to the Government, assumed the administration of the Government.

In October, after several days of heavy rain, the town of Zeilah was subjected to a series of some twelve earthquake shocks of varying degrees of severity, the final one being the severest, and lasting about twelve seconds. No buildings collapsed, but many walls were badly cracked.

BRITISH SOMALILAND.



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SOMALILAND, 1931

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CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Protectorate of British Somaliland has for its northern boundary about 450 miles of coast-line on the Gulf of Aden and extends from Loyi Ada (Hadu), longitude 43° 15′ East, as far as the forty-ninth degree of East longitude, close to the town of Banda Ziada.

The Protectorate marches with Italian Somaliland from Banda Ziada to a point in latitude 8° North; thence with Abyssinia as far as Jalelo, and with French Somaliland from Jalelo to Loyi Ada on the coast.

The area of the Protectorate is about 68,000 square miles. It consists of a coastal plain varying from half a mile to 60 miles in depth, an escarpment precipitous at the eastern end, more gentle in the west, rising from 5,000 feet to 7,000 feet, and an interior

plateau sloping gently south and east to Italian Somaliland and the Abyssinian Haud. The coastal plain is hot and the rainfall as a rule is sparse. The escarpment catches the rain and on the summit are to be found areas of cedar forest. The interior plateau consists in the main of level, bush-covered country interspersed with kopjes or even small detached masses of hills and with large open plains free from bush and covered with grass. The country is primarily camel country owing to the scanty water supply, but cattle thrive, especially in the hills, and sheep and goats also do excellently so long as the rainfall is up to the average.

The chief ports are Berbera, Bulhar, Zeilah, and Las Khoreh.

There are no hotels of any sort at Berbera, or elsewhere in the country. There are furnished rest-houses at Berbera, Burao and Hargeisa, but only that at Berbera provides messing facilities.

Climate.

Somaliland has a small but fairly regular rainfall. The dry season lasts from December to March, during which period there is practically no rain. The big rains fall during April and May and they are succeeded by the S.W. Monsoon (called locally the *kharif*), which blows from June till October—the hottest period of the year. The *kharif* is very trying to Europeans, particularly on the coast, where the heat and dust make concentrated work difficult.

On the higher ground in the interior the heat is at no time intolerable and the nights are generally cool.

From November to March the climate is quite pleasant, the heat on the coast being tempered by the sea breeze.

The rainfalls in the country are very local and consequently there is often considerable variation in local conditions as to grazing, rainpools, etc.

The meteorological statistics are as follows:—

Station.	*Total Rainfall.*	*Mean Maximum.*	*Mean Minimum.*	*Absolute Maximum.*	*Absolute Minimum.*	*Total Rainfall for previous four years.*			
	1931.					*1930.*	*1929.*	*1928.*	*1927.*
	Inches	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Berbera ...	1·43	93·3	79·0	111	59	4·63	0·37	1·09	2·02
Sheikh ...	19·43	78·8	57·5	91	35	27·02	25·04	19·90	11·70
Burao ...	9·79	85·1	61·0	95	41	6·50	9·25	9·07	9·78
Hargeisa ...	25·35	85·5	56·6	95	30	20·67	17·07	12·45	14·58
Zeilah ...	0·66	95·9	76·0	112	60	8·83	1·81	3·08	8·42
Buramo ...	20·24	82·9	58·7	94	28	22·55	16·42	15·99	19·79
Erigavo ...	10·53	77·8	51·0	86	33	12·84	11·90	10·50	15·29

History.

Prior to 1884 the administration of the Somali Coast had been in the hands of the Egyptian Government. Upon its collapse in 1884, a Protectorate was proclaimed by Great Britain over what is now recognized as British Somaliland, and the boundaries were settled by agreements with France, Italy, and Abyssinia. Until 1898 the Protectorate was administered by the Resident at Aden as a Dependency of the Government of India. In that year it was transferred to the charge of the Foreign Office, and on 1st April, 1905, to the Colonial Office.

From 1901 to 1920 the history of the Protectorate is largely a history of campaigns against Mohammed-bin-Abdulla Hassan, the "Mad Mullah." In 1901, 1902, and 1903, expeditions were sent against the Mullah, and in January, 1904, a crushing defeat was inflicted on him at Jidballeh. He then retired into Italian territory and claimed Italian protection. An agreement was made between him and the Italian Government, but the Mullah soon disregarded this agreement and commenced further aggressive actions against the tribes under British protection.

In 1908, arrangements were made for another expedition against him, but before the expedition was launched a policy of coastal concentration was adopted. In March, 1910, all troops were withdrawn from the country, except for small garrisons at the three ports of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeilah. This policy did not prove a success, and in 1912-13 the strict coastal concentration was abandoned and administration in the interior gradually resumed. From 1914, desultory fighting continued until 1920, when a combined attack with land and air forces completely scattered the Mullah and his followers and captured all his forts and possessions. The Mullah fled, a broken man, into Abyssinia, where he died in February, 1921.

In recent years, conditions have been peaceful with the exception of inter-tribal cattle raids both in the Protectorate and outside its borders. As indulgence in these is the hereditary pastime of all Somalis, both British-protected and otherwise, they need not be regarded very seriously, as they can be checked, and are being checked, by extension of administration.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

The Protectorate is administered by the Governor and in his absence by the Secretary to the Government. There is no Executive or Legislative Council. The powers of the Governor are defined in the Somaliland Order in Council, 1929, which consolidated all previous Orders in Council, omitting matters which had become irrelevant or out of date.

Departments of Government.

The Departments of Government whose headquarters are at Berbera are those dealing with Finance, Police and Prisons, Medical Services, Customs, Posts and Telegraphs, and Public Works. The headquarters of the Veterinary Department are at Burao, and those of the Geological and Agricultural Department are at Hargeisa, where they are nearer the centre of their respective activities.

Military Garrison.

The Military Garrison of the Protectorate consists of the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, with headquarters at Burao and a detachment at Hargeisa.

Two aeroplanes of the Aden Squadron, Royal Air Force, are stationed in Somaliland. Aerodromes or landing grounds are maintained at Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, Hargeisa, Buramo, Zeilah, Erigavo, and Hudin.

District Administration.

For administrative purposes the Protectorate has been divided into five districts each of which is in the charge of a Commissioner. The five districts are :—

Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, and Zeilah.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

The Somali population is estimated at 344,700. According to the non-native census taken in April, 1931, the non-native population was 2,683, including 68 Europeans, 520 Indians, 1,614 Arabs, 100 Abyssinians, and 258 Nyasaland natives of the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles.

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

The medical staff of the Protectorate, at the beginning of the year, consisted of the Principal Medical Officer, 6 Medical Officers, 1 Wardmaster, 1 Laboratory Assistant, 3 Assistant Surgeons, 5 Sub-Assistant Surgeons and subordinate staff.

One medical officer was transferred; one wardmaster, who acted as storekeeper, retired on completion of agreement. Neither was replaced. It is anticipated that other economies will be necessary.

A total of approximately 37,000 patients were treated, as compared with some 41,000 in the previous year, a reduction of 4,000, of which 1,300 were accounted for by the difference in the number of cases of malaria treated.

The number of in-patients who avail themselves of the medical facilities at Burao and Hargeisa is constantly increasing, and more wards are required to house them.

Eleven patients suffering from smallpox remained from last year and two new cases were admitted, making 13 in all, of which one died. The disease was stamped out early in the year.

Undulant fever was proved in eight cases, as compared with two cases in the previous year.

Berbera Lunatic Asylum is in the charge of the Principal Medical Officer and consists of a hollow square formed of cells and offices surrounding an open space the centre of which is covered by a roof on pillars.

All the rooms are 10 feet high, and there are 20 rooms and adequate offices.

There were 10 patients remaining on 1st January, 1931, and 13 were admitted during the year. Five were discharged as cured, seven as improved, and eleven remained on 31st December. There were no deaths.

A plan of the hospital and a scale of diet will be found in the Annual Medical Report for 1930.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

The normal Somali dwelling is the *gurgi*, a dome-shaped hut constructed of a pliable stick framework and covered with mats. The *gurgi* is movable and can be readily dismantled and packed on camels when a change of ground for any reason becomes necessary.

In the towns the trading Somali and the poorer class of Indian may sometimes be found living in an *arish* (wattle and daub hut).

Government officers are housed in well-built stone and plaster houses. Berbera is the only town with a pipe-borne water-supply. In other stations, the sanitary arrangements are of a primitive, though satisfactory character.

The indiscriminate setting up of *gurgis* and other temporary dwellings within townships is not permitted, and is controlled by the Commissioners in charge of Districts, who may set aside areas in which such temporary habitations may be installed.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

Agriculture is chiefly confined to the western half of the Protectorate—the Hargeisa and Buramo Districts—to a strip of country about 80 miles long and ranging in width from two to fifteen miles, with an average annual rainfall of about 17 inches. Latterly,

however, it is extending in parts of the plateau country in the middle of the Protectorate—at Adadleh, and between Hahi and Oadweina—under a crude native irrigation scheme which appears to be capable of extension. A close survey of the land under cultivation is being carried out so that, amongst other important objects to be achieved, the total acreage under some form of cultivation and the approximate number of persons cultivating can be estimated. At present, it would appear that about 80,000 acres are cleared and cultivated, but for various reasons a reliable estimate of the number of persons actually working the land can only be furnished after the survey of both districts is completed. There are several thousand and most of them support a family.

The land is being marked off in areas which are held on a tribal or tribal-section basis, the " right " to any area being merely one of prolonged occupancy. The system of cultivation is one of peasant proprietorship. Plots ranging in size from one acre to fifteen acres are owned and worked by individual members of the tribe or section, the right of ownership of any plot depending entirely on continual cultivation of it. Abandonment of the plot or cessation of cultivation for more than one year automatically renders it available to any other member of the tribe willing to work it. A tendency has been noticed towards the recognition by natives of the right of private ownership of plots, and of the right to buy, sell, and let them, but steps are being taken to check it.

There is no European ownership or interest of any kind in agriculture in the country, so that all efforts at improvement of any kind have to be carried out by the Government. The fact that new varieties of sorghum and maize, and especially a pulse (gram), are now being grown shows that by the exercise of tact improvement can be effected.

The crops now being produced are :—

(*a*) Sorghum.

(*b*) Maize.

(*c*) Gram.

The whole of the crop is consumed locally, the surplus amongst the producers being sold in the open market for consumption both in Hargeisa and farther east.

The total amounts sold in the Hargeisa market from 1st January to 31st December, 1931, are :—

	lb.
Sorghum	130,012
Maize	26,182

A small amount of gram was sold, but nearly the whole of the crop was either used or kept for seed.

Of these amounts of sorghum and maize, a part was imported from Abyssinia, but as no means are employed to distinguish the

imported from the local product (whether by Customs duty or otherwise) no estimate of their relative amounts can be furnished. It is certain, however, that the proportion of the local product sold in the market—the surplus—though considerable, is small compared with the total amount annually produced. Attempts to estimate the latter are at present impracticable, but with the organization of agriculture that has been set going, a forecast of the annual crop should before long be possible.

Imported varieties of sorghum, including " feterita ", are now being grown. Maize has been cultivated on a larger scale than in previous years, and there has been a noticeable increase in the number of requests for imported seed that has been tried out under local conditions.

Seeing that, with the cessation of shifting cultivation, the maintenance of soil fertility will soon become important, the interest now being shown by the native in the cultivation of gram is worthy of special mention. In view of the considerable number of leguminous plants which grow wild in parts of the Protectorate, the possibility of making use of those that are eaten by stock is being considered.

Experiments in re-grassing abandoned areas and degraded savannahs have been continued and three imported grasses were tried out with success.

The marking out, posting, classification, and surveying of the agricultural areas has been continued with vigour, about three-quarters of the Hargeisa District has now been dealt with, and plans of the areas marked out have been completed. Shifting cultivation outside the areas and indiscriminate cutting down of bush have ceased, and there is already a marked improvement in observance of the regulations on the part of the native.

The production, collection, and marketing of gum (acacia senegal, frankincense, myrrh, etc.) are at present quite unorganized. Of the total amount exported, part arrives in Berbera in transit from Abyssinia, and part is produced from natural plantations in the eastern part of the Protectorate, which are held on a tribal basis. With regard to the local product, steps are being taken both to increase the amount produced and, by grading, systematic tapping, etc., to improve its quality to a standard that will enable it to compete more successfully with gums grown elsewhere. Two natives sent to the Sudan for training in the gum industry have recently returned, but their knowledge requires to be systematized and put into a form capable of being learnt by gum tappers, collectors, and traders. This is being undertaken.

Comparative yearly returns for the quantity exported are given under the heading " Exports ". The figures, however, include all varieties, no distinction being made either as to quantity or value between true gums (acacia senegal, arabica) and gum-resins.

Though such a distinction, from the point of view of encouragement of production and trade, is greatly to be recommended, unfortunately under present conditions—absence of grading, absence of any local marketing centre, etc.—it is scarcely practicable.

The arrangements now being made, including the establishment of a trading post at which all locally-produced gum will be sold, will greatly improve the position.

In 1930, 13,261 cwt. of gum were exported, valued for Customs duty at £20,258.

In 1931, 11,880 cwt. were exported, valued for Customs duty at £13,726.

Minerals.

As in 1930, a large part of the work of the year has been taken up with the topographical survey of the agricultural areas of the Hargeisa District and the preparation of maps of these areas on a scale of four inches to one mile. There has been no opportunity for mineral survey work.

Gold has been found in gum residues from the Erigavo District, and the presence of gold and in one instance of platinum has been determined by assay in samples from the northern foothills of the same District.

The water-boring party, financed by a grant from the Colonial Development Fund, has continued operations, though considerable delays have been experienced through break-downs in machinery (both drilling and transport). An excellent supply of water greatly in excess of the capacity of the pumping plant has been obtained near Sillil on the coastal plain, and storage tanks and troughs have already been installed with satisfactory results.

Veterinary.

In July, in spite of vigilance on the border, rinderpest was brought into the Protectorate from Abyssinia. Immediate steps were taken to localize the disease. Towards the end of the year it was still in existence, but on the decrease.

Pleuro-pneumonia-contagiosa was controlled in one small quarantine, and no fresh outbreaks were reported.

The outbreak of *surra* in the Camel Corps animals, referred to last year, was completely controlled.

By the end of the year, Somali camel owners were freely demanding treatment for animals on payment.

Fisheries.

Although tropical fish of every variety, such as shark, great and small rays, baracuda and other sphyraenae, durab or wolf herring, dolphins, sea perches, sword fish, rock cod, different species of

sardinella, tunny, mullets, horse mackerel, king fish, crawfish, and bêche-de-mer (trepang) are abundant, yet the few natives engaged in the fishery industry use only a handline with a single hook for trolling and bottom fishing and a light casting net to obtain bait. There is no co-operation between them and they sail out in their canoes to the fishing grounds only when dire necessity compels them. If one is exceptionally successful and realizes a substantial profit, he ceases to labour for as many days as it would have taken him to accumulate this sum from his average daily earnings. Consequently, the local supply of edible fish vended in the towns is considerably less than the actual demand. A few passing shark-fishing dhows, manned by Arabs, Sudanese, and Dankalis, occasionally stop at the ports to net sharks in the harbour and in the deep sea. After completing the operation of salting the fins for the Chinese market and the flesh for the consumption of their countrymen, and extracting the "*seefa*" or liver oil which is used for caulking native craft, they resume their voyage.

Since foreign dhows have been excluded from fishing within the French and Italian territorial waters, a number of native smacks have been withdrawn from the mother-of-pearl and trochee shell fisheries. Within the limit to which the divers are now restricted, they cannot collect a sufficient quantity to realize a profit. Although the gamble of obtaining a valuable gem after opening thousands of mother-of-pearl shells always will be an incentive to engage in the industry, yet it is from the sale of the empty shells that the divers derive their maintenance.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

Sea Customs.

The value of the Protectorate sea-borne trade during the year 1931 was Rs.68,09,491, contrasted with Rs.82,74,261 in 1930. The following comparative table shows the value of the imports and exports excluding specie, during the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.* Rs.	*Exports.* Rs.	*Total.* Rs.
1927 ...	57,21,663	48,89,120	106,10,783
1928 ...	82,51,443	75,26,270	157,77,713
1929 ...	62,75,587	31,84,893	94,60,480
1930 ...	49,27,166	33,47,095	82,74,261
1931 ...	41,35,139	26,74,352	68,09,491

IMPORTS.

The import trade in 1931, excluding specie to the value of Rs.17,432, was distributed in the following proportions between the four Protectorate ports :—

Ports.	*Amount.*	*Percentage.*				
		1927.	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*
	Rs.					
Berbera ...	32,81,466	61·6	62·1	71·8	81·1	79·4
Bulhar ...	18,921	3·3	3·6	4·8	1·5	·5
Zeilah... ...	6,28,814	32·1	30·2	18·7	13·4	15·2
Makhir Coast...	2,05,938	3·0	4·1	4·7	4·0	4·9

The following were the articles which principally contributed to the total value :—

Article.	*Country of Origin.*	*Unit.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*
American Grey Sheeting.	America via Aden.	Yds.	1,800	9,750	38,410	18,150	12,750
China Grey Sheeting.	China via Aden.	„	6,300	—	—	—	27,450
Japan Grey Sheeting.	Japan via Aden.	„	3,151,960	2,161,230	1,546,265	2,720,773	2,312,752
Indian Grey Sheeting.	India via Aden.	„	—	—	52,500	—	—
Long Cloth (Manchester).	Manchester via Aden.	„	1,990,723	1,036,510	1,071,248	1,430,910	1,060,017
Long Cloth (Japanese).	Japan via Aden.	„	—	—	—	—	109,800
Dates ...	Persian Gulf via Aden.	Cwt.	46,358	121,592	51,395	45,445	65,276
Rice ...	India via Aden	„	100,515	208,462	183,686	127,944	112,034
Sugar ...	England, Java, Mauritius, and Trieste via Aden.	„	49,302	69,612	43,823	21,127	50,334

EXPORTS.

The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.66,453, amounted to Rs.2,674,352, and was distributed in the following proportions between the four Protectorate ports:—

Ports.	*Amount.*	*Percentage.*				
		1927.	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*
	Rs.					
Berbera ...	19,28,698	54·9	57·9	61·3	72·0	72·1
Bulhar... ...	2,095	6·9	4·5	6·9	·1	·1
Zeilah	5,38,179	31·9	34·3	25·6	22·3	20·1
Makhir Coast...	2,05,380	6·3	3·3	6·2	5·6	7·7

The following were the main indigenous products shipped from the Protectorate:—

Article.	*Country of destination.*	*Unit.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*
Bullocks...	Aden and Suez	Nos.	1,340	877	563	2,102	857
Sheep and Goats.	A few to Mukulla and Suez but majority to Aden.	„	120,123	74,543	60,079	76,127	104,682
Skins (sheep and goats).	Europe, America, via Aden.	„	1,754,548	3,773,940	981,428	810,131	997,221
Hides ...	do.	Cwt.	130	2,404	2,832	71	37
Gums and Resins.	Europe, India, via Aden.	„	5,047	14,678	16,759	13,261	11,880
Ghee ...	Aden ...	„	4,939	1,168	1,059	5,745	7,247

Land Customs.

Zeilah.

The statistics of the Land Customs Station from 1927-1931 are as under:—

IMPORTS.

Item.	*Unit.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930*	*1931.*
Millet (Sorghum) ...	Cwt. ...	661	87½	—	1	25
Wheat	„ ...	43	8½	—	—	7

EXPORTS.

Horses	Nos. ...	—	15	6	3	4
Camels	„ ...	18	138	207	198	182
Donkeys	„ ...	—	2	2	15	4
Cattle...	„ ...	934	759	1,554	1,807	467
Sheep and Goats ...	„ ...	7,421	7,675	6,341	9,853	17,914
Salt	Cwt. ...	15,903	14,736	7,470	8,356	1,909

Salt.

The condition of the salt industry is evident from the fluctuations which have occurred since 1927 :—

Year.	*Quantity Exported.*		
	By land.	*By sea.*	*Total.*
	Cwt.	*Cwt.*	*Cwt.*
1927	15,903	31,432	47,335
1928	14,736	18,822	33,558
1929	7,470	54,528	61,998
1930	8,356	12,282	20,638
1931	1,909	398	2,307

The marked decrease for 1931 is the result of the monopoly granted to the company owning the Jibuti salt works.

Hargeisa and Buramo.

At Hargeisa, duty amounting to Rs.250-2-0 was collected on 1,250 akaras or bundles of Kat (Katha Edulis) imported from Abyssinia, and at Buramo differential duty to the amount of Rs.26-6-0 was paid on goods originally imported by sea. In 1930, the corresponding items were Rs.205-11-0 (1,028 akaras) and Rs.19-0-0.

Transit Trade.

Customs duty at the rate of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* is levied on merchandise in transit between the Protectorate and Abyssinia. The value of goods imported and exported since 1927 was :—

	Rs.
1927	14,63,849
1928	13,89,665
1929	10,78,879.
1930	15,71,792
1931	12,42,200

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The few Somalis who work for their living are employed either as coolies, clerks, and subordinates in Government Departments, or as personal servants. The approximate wages of the various types are :—

Coolies, 8 annas a day (8 hours).
Clerks, Rs.40 to Rs.350 a month (according to grade)
Personal servants, Rs.15 to Rs.45 a month.

The staple food of the Somali in Government or private employ is a daily ration composed of 1 lb. rice, ½ lb. dates, and 2 ounces of ghee, the value of which is usually about 3 annas.

The average cost of living for Europeans is about Rs.5 (7s. 6d.) a head *per diem* for a married couple. For one adult the cost would be relatively higher. The figure given does not include servants' wages, cost of entertaining, or club expenses.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The Somalis in general are strenuously opposed to their children receiving any education other than that given by their own Mohammedan priests, which consists chiefly of the recitation of passages from the Koran. There is a small Government elementary school in Berbera attended by Somali, Arab, and Indian children. The average number of pupils during the year was 111. Good reports continue to be received regarding the six Somali boys referred to in the previous report who were sent to the Gordon College, Khartoum.

In 1930 arrangements were made for a further development of education on modest lines, based on the methods adopted in the Sudan. This took the form of Government assistance towards the payment of teachers in the Koranic schools already in existence, and the purchase of equipment, on the sole condition that the boys shall be taught to read and write in Arabic and to understand simple arithmetic. The schools were inspected during this year, but in spite of very generous application of the conditions by the examiners, only three schools qualified for grants from the Government. This comparatively meagre result is due to the inertia of the Somali, and inability to take action on his own account in such matters. The scheme is being proceeded with in the hope of inducing the people to help themselves in the matter of education.

There are no welfare institutions in British Somaliland.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

There is a weekly service from Aden, which is worked by local contract, the ships connecting at Aden with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's outward and homeward sailing ships.

The following is a comparative table of the steam and motor vessels and country craft shipping which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the last five years:—

	1927.		*1928.*		*1929.*		*1930.*		*1931.*	
	Nos.	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*
Entered ...	666	51,682	740	87,065	909	85,498	510	59,327	581	72,673
Cleared ...	651	50,861	722	85,936	926	85,125	504	60,091	543	70,428

Roads.

No railways have been constructed in the Protectorate but there are 950 miles of motorable roads and tracks—divided into trunk roads and district roads, the former under the supervision of the Public Works Department and the latter maintained by the District Commissioners. These are suitable for general traffic and mechanical transport of medium weight.

The arterial roads of the Protectorate are :—

(1) Berbera—Sheikh—Burao—Ainabo—Adad—El Afweina —Erigavo—Baran.

(2) Berbera—Hargeisa—Nabadid—Buramo.

(3) Burao—Oadweina—Hargeisa.

(4) Zeilah—Loyi (French Frontier).

(5) Zeilah—Arahales.

The mileage of the various roads is as follows :—

	Miles.
Berbera—Dubar	7
Berbera—Upper Sheikh	50
Sheikh—Burao	38
Burao—Ainabo	81
Ainabo—Adad	52
Adad—El Afweina	47
El Afweina—Erigavo	56
Erigavo—Baran	108
Berbera—Hargeisa	110
Hargeisa—Buramo	76
Nabadid—Tug Wajaleh (Abyssinian Frontier) ...	13
Berbera—Bulhar	43
Bulhar—Zeilah	102
Zeilah—Loyi (French Frontier)	18
Burao—Hargeisa	119
Zeilah—Arahalas	30
	950

Motor Transport.

The increase of traffic noticed during 1930 has been well maintained between Berbera and Hargeisa, Berbera and Burao, and Burao and Erigavo.

No improvement has been made in the introduction of British-made cars into the Protectorate by commercial firms. This is due to the lack of agencies and the difficulty in obtaining motor car spare parts within the Protectorate or in Aden.

Number of licensed private cars in the Protectorate	24
Number of licensed commercial cars in the Protectorate	32
Number of non-licensed cars belonging to Government departments	13

Out of 56 licensed motor cars 34 are of American manufacture. The motor vehicles belonging to the Government are :—

25-cwt. Morris commercial	7
Morris Oxford (H.E. the Governor's car)	1
Ford box cars (1 Berbera, 1 Hargeisa)	2
Morris six wheelers (Water Boring Party)	3

The total mileage of the Government motor transport in 1931 was :—

	Miles.
25-cwt. Morris commercial	50,160

The comparative cost per ton mile by Morris commercial and camel is :—

	Annas.
Morris commercial	5.5
Camel	6.0

Posts and Telegraphs.

The headquarters of the Posts and Telegraphs Department are at Berbera.

The revenue and expenditure of the Department in respect of the last five years are as follows :—

	1931.	*1930.*	*1929.*	*1928.*	*1927. (nine months)*
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	**1,394**	**1,627**	**1,833**	**2,360**	**1,174**
Expenditure ...	**8,847**	**8,889**	**8,519**	**8,281**	**6,191**

Until the end of 1886 there was no recognized Post Office in British Somaliland, and the acceptance and distribution of ordinary letters were carried out by the British Agents at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeilah. On 1st January, 1887, the Director-General of the Post Office in India sanctioned the establishment of Post Offices at Berbera and Zeilah. The Indian Post Office Act, 1898, was applied to British Somaliland by an Order of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs dated 9th March, 1903, and the Protectorate Post Office was transferred from the Indian Administration and constituted under the above authority on the 1st June, 1903, the Protectorate becoming a member of the International Postal Union.

The operations against the Dervishes in 1903 necessitated the establishment of a number of Field Post Offices, the mails being carried by runners and camel riders. This system was maintained till 1925 for the conveyance of mails between the administrative stations in the interior and, in the absence of railways and motor cars, proved generally a cheap, reliable, and comparatively speedy service.

In 1925, a weekly motor car mail service was inaugurated, connecting Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, and Hargeisa. Other places are still served by mail runners.

Direct mails, which are exchanged weekly with London, Aden, and Bombay, are carried by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's mail steamers, regular connexions with which are made by local contract steamers between Aden and Berbera. Letters to and from the United Kingdom are delivered within from 12 to 14 days.

The following are the denominations of postage stamps on sale in the Protectorate :—

Annas, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12.
Rupees, 1, 2, 3, 5.

The issue and payment of British postal orders was introduced in January, 1905, and during the same year arrangements were made with the British and Indian Post Offices for a direct exchange of money orders. In 1907, the cash on delivery and insurance of parcels, and the value payable and insurance of parcels, etc., services were introduced with Great Britain and India including Aden, and in the following year the insured letter service to Great Britain was commenced. The insured box service with Great Britain and certain other countries was introduced in 1926. The direct exchange of money orders with the Kenya and Uganda Administration, which had been introduced in 1910, was suspended in 1921 on account of exchange difficulties. Money orders to and from the East African Dependencies are exchanged through the intermediary of the Aden Post Office.

The present telegraph administration is the result of evolution from and expansion and improvement of the military telegraphs used in connexion with the operations of the Somaliland Field Force in 1903 and subsequently. The system has been improved and expanded with the addition of wireless telegraphy.

A land telegraph line now connects Berbera with Sheikh and Burao, which are also served by telephone.

Wireless stations (1½ kilowatt) are now in operation at Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, Buramo, and Zeilah. For financial reasons the two latter will probably be closed in 1932.

All stations are open to the public for inland and foreign telegraph traffic. The charges are :—

5 annas per word from any Protectorate station to Aden, plus 8 annas for twenty words and 4 annas for every additional ten words.

2 annas per word to any station within the Protectorate.

Rs.1-11-0* per word to the United Kingdom.

Rs.1-3-0* per word to India.

In April, 1927, a wireless receiving apparatus for the reception of the British Official News Service transmitted from Rugby was installed and has given satisfaction.

* Half this rate is charged for deferred telegrams.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a branch of the commercial firm of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, Bombay, accepts deposits from private individuals, cashes cheques drawn on them, and arranges the transfer of funds to the United Kingdom and elsewhere through a branch of the firm at Aden.

There are no banking laws in force.

The Government Savings Bank continues to gain ground. The rate of interest paid remains at 2½ per cent. and depositors from all classes of the community are taking advantage of the facilities offered.

Currency.

The monetary unit is the Government of India rupee at one shilling and sixpence. Rupees are legal tender for the payment of any amount and Government of India subsidiary coinage is legal tender for the payment of sums not in excess of five rupees. India Government Currency Notes are in circulation.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial standard of weights and measures is in force. The Indian and Somali traders also use certain of the weights and measures in force in British India.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

A general building programme was carried out at all the more important stations in the Protectorate.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There is no Judicial or Legal Department in the Protectorate. The Criminal Courts consist of the Protectorate Court, District Courts of the first class, and District Courts of the second class. The Governor and Secretary to the Government are the judges of the Protectorate Court. District Courts of the first class are held by Commissioners-in-Charge of Districts and such other officers as the Governor may so empower. District Courts of the second class are held by those officers so empowered by the Governor. The District Courts are empowered by law to try all cases in which

natives are parties except for sedition, treason or murder. Cases beyond the jurisdiction of the District Courts, or possessing features which make a trial by the Protectorate Court desirable, are committed by the District Court for trial by the Protectorate Court. In cases where appeals lie from judgments of District Courts, the appeal is to the Protectorate Court of Appeal, which is the final Appellate Court in the Protectorate.

The law of the Protectorate is :—

(*a*) Coded law, i.e., the Indian Penal Code as applied by the Somaliland Administration of Criminal Justice Ordinance (Chapter 4 of the Revised Edition of the Laws), and local Ordinances.

(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan law.

A much stricter legal control is now exercised. In past years, murder and homicide among the natives have been dealt with under tribal customs, but such crimes are now tried by the Criminal Courts. The infliction of the death penalty in particularly aggravated cases has not been without its effect upon native thought; and as the Somali realizes that the death penalty may follow conviction for murder, he will doubtless, as time goes on, modify his characteristic light-hearted outlook on the sanctity of human life.

In addition to Criminal and Civil cases under (*a*) tribal cases are investigated and judged by District Courts under a mixture of tribal custom, Mohammedan law and Indian law. This work forms the great bulk of the District Officers' work as the Somali's inherent love of litigation and refusal to accept any decision except from the highest court of appeal leads to much work of a trivial nature which, if neglected, may result in intertribal fighting. The Kadis deal with cases falling entirely under Mohammedan law and Courts of Akils or Elders have been set up to deal with the less important and contentious of tribal cases.

Crime.

There were only two convictions for murder during the year, compared with seven in 1930. The number of convictions for offences against the person was 186 as against 138 last year, convictions for and offences against property rose from 134 to 141. The number of *dia* cases, i.e., inter-tribal killings settled according to tribal custom, was 36, an increase of nine over the figure for 1930.

Police.

The Somaliland Civil Police are constituted under " the Somaliland Civil Police Ordinance " (Chapter 22 of the Revised Edition of the Laws).

The force is under the control of the Governor and has an establishment of five European officers, four Somali officers, and some 550 other ranks.

Training is carried out at headquarters in Berbera, and a musketry course is fired there by all available men. Rank and file in stations other than Berbera are under charge of Commissioners-in-Charge of Districts. Reliefs are effected as often as possible from Berbera in order that relieved men can receive training.

Garrison duties are carried out by the force at Berbera, Erigavo, Zeilah, and Buramo.

The police are liable to serve as a military force when called upon by the Governor to discharge military duties.

The musketry of the force is of a high standard. In 1930 their team secured second place in the annual competition for the East and West African Police Shooting Cup. In 1931 they followed up their success by winning the Cup with a score of 631 out of a possible 672.

Prisons.

The established prisons in the Protectorate during 1930 were as follows :—

The Central Prison in Berbera.

Five District Prisons at Zeilah, Burao, Hargeisa, Buramo, and Erigavo.

The Central Prison accommodates all convicts sentenced to terms of imprisonment exceeding six months in addition to all prisoners convicted in the Berbera District.

The District Prisons accommodate prisoners convicted within Districts who are sentenced to imprisonment for six months or less.

In 1930 the Commandant of Police was appointed Director of Prisons with powers of inspection of all prisons in the Protectorate, and further with power to appoint a European officer, subject to the approval of the Governor, to be in responsible charge of the Berbera Prison for the purpose of carrying out the regulations made under the Prison Discipline Ordinance, 1918. The administration of District Prisons remained in the hands of Commissioners-in-Charge of Districts.

As Berbera Prison is the Central Prison for the whole of the Protectorate the accommodation and general routine there are more elaborate than in District Prisons. The Central Prison occupies an area of some 6,700 square yards, the whole being surrounded by a stone wall from 11 to 17 feet high. Accommodation is provided for male, female, and juvenile convicts. In addition to the usual wards and cells, the prison is equipped with a dispensary, two sick wards capable of accommodating four lying-in cases, a workshop, and the usual offices. The prison is lighted by electricity.

Committals to the Central Prison during 1931, as compared with the two preceding years, were as follows :—

Year.	*For want of bail or for debt.*	*For penal imprisonment.*
1931	14	221
1930	12	178
1929	7	282

The bulk of the labour provided by the prisoners is unskilled, and is used on work of public utility such as road making, quarrying stones, watering trees in Government grounds, etc.

A certain amount of skilled labour is carried out in the Central Prison where long-sentence prisoners are taught to manufacture and repair articles of use to other departments. The manufacture of cane furniture for the Public Works Department is the main industry.

The trade classes for carpenters and masons instituted in 1928 still continue to be most successful and the numbers attending these classes have been increased. The instructors are skilled artisans employed by the Public Works Department.

Section 2 of the Administration of Criminal Justice (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931, provides that no young person under the age of 16 years shall be sentenced to imprisonment if the court considers that suitable punishment can be imposed in some other way by placing on probation, or fine or corporal punishment, or committal to a place of detention, or otherwise. Local conditions would not permit of the institution of a regular probation system.

The allowing of time for payment of fines is in the discretion of the court, which may also direct a fine to be paid by instalments (Section 282 (3) of the Administration of Criminal Justice Ordinance (Chapter 4 of the Revised Edition of the Laws)).

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were enacted during 1931 :—

The Natives Betrothal and Marriage (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 1 of 1932).

The Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 2 of 1931).

The Arms Traffic Ordinance (No. 3 of 1931).

The Destruction of Court Records Ordinance (No. 4 of 1931).

The Customs (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 5 of 1931).

The Cattle Disease (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 6 of 1931).

The European Officers' Pensions (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 7 of 1931).

The Motor Traffic (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 8 of 1931).

The Customs (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance (No. 9 of 1931).

The Protection of Boundary Pillars Ordinance (No. 10 of 1931).

The Administration of Criminal Justice (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 11 of 1931).

The Customs (Amendment No. 3) Ordinance (No. 12 of 1931).

The Arms Traffic Ordinance (No. 3 of 1931) was passed to give effect to the Abyssinian Arms Traffic Treaty, which was signed on the 21st of August, 1930.

The Protection of Boundary Pillars Ordinance (No. 10 of 1931) was designed to prevent damage to boundary pillars erected by the late Anglo-Italian Boundary Commission.

The Administration of Criminal Justice (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 11 of 1931) provides for more suitable punishment of young persons.

There is no factory legislation in the Protectorate nor any legislative provision for sickness, old age, etc.

Compensation for accidents is provided for under "The Employers Liability Ordinance" (Chapter 60 of the Revised Edition of the Laws).

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The finances of the Protectorate have been seriously affected by the general trade depression. A revision of the Customs duties on both imports and exports which was necessary, resulted in a considerable falling off of the revenue derived therefrom, and this fact, allied with the general diminution in the volume of trade, accounts for the low revenue returns.

To offset the reduction in revenue, expenditure has been drastically curtailed, as will be seen from the comparative table of expenditure.

Revenue.

The revenue from all sources amounted to £101,893, a decrease of £3,411 as compared with the previous year.

The following table shows the principal sources of revenue for the years 1928-31.

	Customs.	*Licences and Taxes.*	*Court Fees and Government Services.*	*Other.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£	£
1928 ...	121,875	22,151	9,997	3,464	157,487
1929 ...	79,577	12,201	9,306	4,697	105,781
1930 ...	73,290	13,205	9,000	9,809*	105,304
1931 ...	63,347	14,484	11,585	12,477*	101,893

* Includes receipts from the Colonial Development Fund amounting to £4,300 in 1930 and £9,052 in 1931.

Public Debt.

The net sum due by the Protectorate to the Imperial Treasury on 31st December, 1931, was £201,250. This sum represents the total of loans in aid of civil expenditure for the period 1921-31. The loan-in-aid received in 1931 was £32,250. Loans-in-aid are subject to repayment with interest as and when the finances of the Protectorate permit. No repayment has yet been made.

In addition to the loan-in-aid, the Protectorate is in receipt of an annual free grant in aid of military expenditure. The grant paid in 1931 was £59,000. The total sum granted since 1st April, 1921, is £589,000.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year amounted to £185,762, and the following table shows the expenditure for the years 1928-31.

	Civil.	*Military.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£
1928	135,003	63,625	198,628
1929	152,614	54,453	207,067
1930	144,443*	54,583	199,027
1931	135,671*	50,091	185,762

The saving of approximately £9,000 under civil expenditure, as compared with the previous year, was effected by the curtailment of the Public Works Extraordinary programme and by a general fall in the cost of rations and forage : the military vote was similarly affected by the fall in prices.

Colonial Development Fund.

A grant of £19,000 was approved in 1930 for schemes of water boring and conservation in the Protectorate for a period of two years.

At 31st December, 1931, the amounts received and expended were as follows :—

	Receipts.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1930	4,300	6,449
1931	9,052	6,878
	£13,352	£13,327

* Includes expenditure from Colonial Development Fund grants amounting to £6,449 in 1930 and £6,878 in 1931.

Financial Position on 31st December, 1931.

The surplus of revenue over expenditure amounted to £33,023, as follows :—

		£
Surplus on 1st January, 1931		25,642
Revenue :—	£	
Civil	101,540	
Military	353	
Loan/Grant	91,250	
		193,143
		218,785
Expenditure :—	£	
Civil	135,671	
Military	50,091	
		185,762
Surplus at 31st December, 1931		33,023
		£218,785

As the Protectorate Blue Book is not printed, it is considered advisable to include the following information in this Report :—

Customs Duties.

Imports } Authority :—The Customs Ordinance (Chapter 44,
Exports } Revised Edition of the Laws)

The Customs duties are classified under two heads :—

(*a*) Specific Duties } Under the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 44, Revised Edition of the Laws).
(*b*) *Ad valorem* Duties }

Imports and Exports :—

The value at which *ad valorem* duty is assessed is fixed as—

(*a*) in accordance with the Tariff approved yearly on 1st April by His Excellency the Governor; and open for inspection at each Customs House, or

(*b*) Where no provision is made in the Tariff—

(i) in the case of imports, the wholesale cash price, less trade discount for which goods of the like kind and quality are sold, or are capable of being sold, at the time and place of importation, without any abatement or deduction except the amount of the duties payable on the importation thereof; and

(ii) in the case of exports, the prevailing market price at the port of exportation as ascertained monthly by the Chief of Customs or as manifested on exporters' invoices.

TARIFF.

Specific Duties:—

Imports:—

Alcoholic liquors.—Rs. 12 per gallon at 50 degrees of the Gay-Lussac alcoholometer at a temperature of 15 degrees centigrade, proportionately augmented or diminished for each degree above or below 50 degrees, and 15 per cent. *ad valorem* on wines, beers and other fermented alcoholic liquors, as provided in the Alcoholic Liquors Ordinance (Chapter 29, Revised Edition of the Laws).

	Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
Sugar (Refined, Java, Mauritius), per 28 lb. ...	0	12	0
Rice (excepting Dawood Khani, Bhimri and Shalulleh), per bag of 168 lb.	2	8	0
Dates per gosra of approximately 168 lb	1	12	0
Indian grey sheeting per bale of 750 yards ...	50	0	0
Japanese grey sheeting per bale of 900 yards ...	84	0	0
Any other grey sheeting per bale of 750 yards ...	70	0	0
European white long cloth of British manufacture, per 40 yards	4	0	0
European white long cloth other than British manufacture, per 40 yards	5	0	0
Matches per standard box of approximately sixty matches	0	0	3
For boxes larger than the standard size	0	0	6

For smaller quantities than the above proportionate duties shall be levied.

Ad valorem Duties:—

Imports:—

Rice (Dawood Khani, Bhimri and Shalulleh) ... ...
Building materials ... ...
Naphthaline ... ...
Mats and matting and native pottery ... ...
Fresh, dried, and preserved fruits and vegetables ... ...
Preserved provisions ... ...
Articles of European attire ...

10 per cent. *ad valorem*.

Exports by sea:—

Live stock and all goods other than those enumerated in Schedule IV of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 44, Revised Edition of the Laws) ... ...

Imports:—

Live stock and all goods other than those enumerated in Schedule I.A. and B. (i) and in Schedule IV of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 44. Revised Edition of the Laws)	15 per cent. *ad valorem.*

Exports at Frontier Customs Stations:—

Live stock and local produce ...	10 per cent. *ad valorem.*

The following are the Customs Ports and Frontier Customs Stations at which the above import and export duties are in force :—

Customs Ports:—

Berbera, Bulhar, Zeilah, Las Khoreh, Heis, and Elayu.

Frontier Customs Stations:—

Zeilah, Elayu, Hargeisa, and Buramo (goods-in-transit only).

Subject to certain exceptions, a rebate of half of the Protectorate rates is allowed on all goods, having their origin within the Administrative District of Zeilah, exported from Zeilah, and two-thirds on all goods imported at Zeilah for consumption within the administrative District of Zeilah.

Transit Rates:—

The value of all goods-in-transit shall be the wholesale cash price, less trade discount, for which goods of the like kind are sold or are capable of being sold at the time and place of importation without any abatement or deduction except the amount of the duties payable on the importation thereof.

Transit Rates on Goods-in-Transit:—

On all goods imported in transit to Abyssinia	1 per cent. *ad valorem*
On all goods imported in transit from Abyssinia	1 per cent. *ad valorem*

CHAPTER XVI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

All land in the Protectorate except in proclaimed townships may be said to be vested in the Somali tribe. Outside the townships no individual title to land is recognized (except in the case of a few small religious settlements) nor is any sectional title to any particular area recognized as giving any particular section of the tribe

an exclusive right to that area. It is the habit of certain sections always to graze in the same area and this in practice gives them a prescriptive title to that area, but theoretically and legally individuals of other sections have the right to enter such areas and use the grazing as necessity dictates. In the western part of the Protectorate, where large areas of ground are under cultivation, the tribal title has been restricted to the extent that the right of individual cultivators to the enjoyment of the area cultivated is recognized, but only so long as effective cultivation is continued.

Government has taken powers to expropriate land for public purposes, on payment of compensation for damage done thereby to an individual or section. Land so expropriated becomes Crown Land.

The township areas are divided into two classes:—

(*a*) Old-established towns on the coast, such as Berbera and Zeilah; and

(*b*) Recently-established towns in the interior.

In class (*a*), the matter has been allowed to remain undefined. In practice, disputes as to ownership seldom arise.

In class (*b*), Government has introduced legislation to give to individuals a valid title to ground. All townships are of such recent growth that, except in five small plots in Hargeisa, no claim to freehold has been established, and leases or temporary occupation licences have been given to such of the present occupiers as wish to secure a legal title to their land.

Political Situation.

The attitude of the tribes as a whole, towards the Government, during the year under review, was satisfactory. The incidents referred to below have been purely tribal and not in any way directed against the Government.

Burao District.—The Ain and Nogal were again centres of disturbance in the form of inter-tribal affrays. The Dolbahanta, rer Farah Hagar, a wealthy and powerful section, showed a tendency to "trail their coats" and exercise summary vengeance on anybody stepping on them. Several fatal casualties resulted, and the sections to which the victims belong sought the aid of the Government. With troops in the area the rer Hagar pugnacity vanished; they removed their stock to a safe distance over the border, and at the end of the year were asking for terms, surrendering a hundred camels as an earnest of their good intentions.

In the same area hostilities broke out between two *jilibs** of the Hawiya, a small and hitherto peaceful section, and three men have been killed.

During October a quarrel of obscure origin between a section of the Habr Awal and a section of the Habr Toljaala grew in a short time to proportions which menaced the peace of Burao town.

* *Jilib*:—A small sub-section or division of a tribe.

Order was restored and the crowd dispersed by the expedient of arresting the Elders, who were encouraging the dispute though taking no active part in it, and a threat to close down their places of business.

There were occasional cases of homicide among the Habr Yunis in the Haud.

Hargeisa District.—Three raids on a large scale were made by the Ogaden against the Ishaak tribes. Most of the stock was subsequently recovered and the casualties reported were two men killed and two wounded. Within the District comparative peace has reigned.

Erigavo District.—The general situation has been peaceful and there has been noticed a marked decrease in the number of Somalis carrying rifles.

Zeilah District.—The year has been quiet and serious crime almost non-existent.

Abyssinia.

During the year negotiations were entered into between the British and Ethiopian Governments with a view to the demarcation of the British Somaliland-Ethiopian boundary. The negotiations resulted in the constitution of the British Somaliland-Ethiopia Boundary Commission, comprising a British and an Ethiopian section.

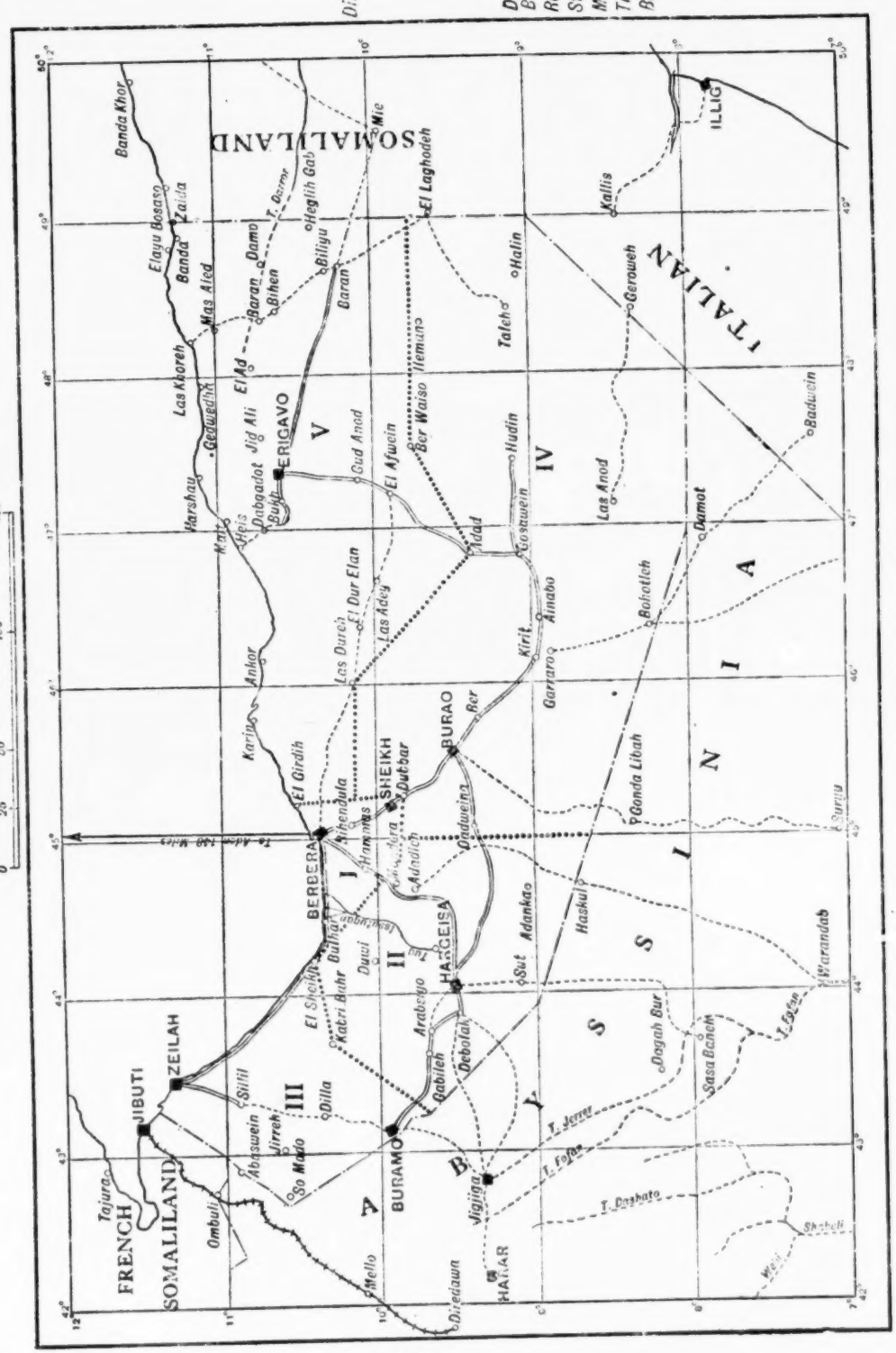
The British section arrived in Berbera in December, and the Ethiopian section, which travelled overland from Jibuti and was delayed by mechanical breakdowns, reached Berbera early in the new year.

Affairs on the western frontier have been quiet, and there has been no further incident such as that referred to on page 7 of the Report for 1930.

Governorship.

His Excellency Sir Harold Baxter Kittermaster, K.B.E., C.M.G., left Berbera on the 7th December, 1931, on leave to England, prior to taking up his new appointment as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of British Honduras. Major A. S. Lawrance, C.M.G., D.S.O., assumed the administration of the Government.

BRITISH SOMALILAND.



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EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1931. Cmd. 3914. 9*d.* (10*d.*).

The Growing Dependence of British Industry upon Empire Markets. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 23.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Insect Infestation of Stored Cacao. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 24.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

British Industries and Empire Markets. March, 1930. (E.M.B. 26.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Canadian Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the Deterioration in Transit of Imported Canadian Fruit, 1927-29. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 30.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Production of Tung Oil in the Empire. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 31.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Report on the Cultivation, Treatment and Prospects of Rice in British Guiana. (E.M.B. 32.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

The Dissemination of Research Results among Agricultural Producers. (E.M.B. 33.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).

The Demand for Empire Butter. (E.M.B. 34.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Relative Values of Cod Liver Oils from various sources. (E.M.B. 35.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).

The Behaviour and Diseases of the Banana in Storage and Transport. (E.M.B. 36.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

The Demand for Canned Fruits. (E.M.B. 37.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Report of Proceedings of the Imperial Wool Research Conference, 1930. 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Fruit Supplies in 1930. (E.M.B. 38.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Changes in the Demand for Butter. (E.M.B. 39.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 1d.)

Report on Development of Agriculture in the Bahamas. (E.M.B. 40.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1930, to May, 1931. (E.M.B. 41.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

A Preliminary Report on an investigation into the Control of West Indian Insect Pests. (E.M.B. 42.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

Recent Advances in Pasture Management. (E.M.B. 43.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Dairy Research. (E.M.B. 44.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Transport and Storage of Bananas with special reference to Chilling. (E.M.B. 45.) 1*s.* (1*s* 2*d.*).

British Empire Hardwoods from the point of view of Turnery. 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

Wool Quality: A Study of the Influence of various contributory factors, their significance and the technique of their measurement. Cloth. £1 1*s.* (£1 1*s.* 9*d.*).

Australian and New Zealand Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the deterioration in transit of Imported Australian and New Zealand Fruit, 1927–30. (E.M.B 46.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Banana Breeding at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. (E.M.B. 47.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Imperial Sugar Cane Research Conference, 1931. Report of Proceedings. 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 11*d.*).

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No. 1613

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

SOMALILAND, 1932

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CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Protectorate of British Somaliland has for its northern boundary about 450 miles of coast-line on the Gulf of Aden and extends from Loyi Ada (Hadu), longitude 43° 15′ East, as far as the forty-ninth degree of East longitude, close to the town of Banda Ziada.

The Protectorate marches with Italian Somaliland from Banda Ziada to a point in latitude 8° North; thence with Abyssinia as far as Jalelo, and with French Somaliland from Jalelo to Loyi Ada on the coast.

The area of the Protectorate is about 68,000 square miles. It consists of a coastal plain varying from half a mile to 60 miles in depth, an escarpment precipitous at the eastern end, more gentle in the west, rising from 5,000 feet to 7,000 feet, and an interior

plateau sloping gently south and east to Italian Somaliland and the Abyssinian Haud. The coastal plain is hot and the rainfall as a rule is sparse. The escarpment catches the rain and on the summit are to be found areas of cedar forest. The interior plateau consists in the main of level, bush-covered country interspersed with kopjes or even small detached masses of hills and with large open plains free from bush and covered with grass. The country is primarily camel country owing to the scanty water supply, but cattle thrive, especially in the hills, and sheep and goats also do excellently so long as the rainfall is up to the average.

The chief ports are Berbera, Zeilah and Las Khoreh.

There are no hotels of any sort at Berbera, or elsewhere in the country. There are furnished rest-houses at Berbera, Burao and Hargeisa, but only that at Berbera provides messing facilities.

Climate.

Somaliland has a small but fairly regular rainfall. The dry season lasts from December to March, during which period there is practically no rain. The big rains fall during April and May and they are succeeded by the S.W. Monsoon (called locally the *kharif*), which blows from June till October—the hottest period of the year. The *kharif* is very trying to Europeans, particularly on the coast where the heat and dust make concentrated work difficult.

On the higher ground in the interior the heat is at no time intolerable and the nights are generally cool.

From November to March the climate is quite pleasant, the heat on the coast being tempered by the sea breeze.

The rainfalls in the country are very local and consequently there is often considerable variation in local conditions as to grazing, rainpools, etc.

The meteorological statistics are as follows:—

Station.	*Total Rainfall.*	*Mean Maximum.*	*Mean Minimum.*	*Absolute Maximum.*	*Absolute Minimum.*	*Total Rainfall for previous four years.*			
	1932.					*1931.*	*1930.*	*1929.*	*1928.*
	Inches	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Berbera ...	2·20	92·6	77·7	110	61	1·43	4·63	0·37	1·09
Sheikh ...	18·79	77·8	56·0	90	40	19·43	27·02	25·04	19·90
Burao ...	5·58	83·4	60·4	94	46	9·79	6·50	9·25	9·07
Hargeisa ...	15·28	85·0	55·9	96	30	25·35	20·67	17·07	12·45
Zeilah ...	8·12	93·1	74·7	107	62	0·66	8·83	1·81	3·08
Buramo ...	25·99	81·9	59·0	95	34	20·24	22·55	16·42	15·99
Erigavo ...	11·07	76·4	49·6	85	32	10·53	12·84	11·90	10·50

History.

Prior to 1884 the administration of the Somali Coast had been in the hands of the Egyptian Government. Upon its collapse in 1884, a Protectorate was proclaimed by Great Britain and the boundaries were settled by agreements with France, Italy, and Abyssinia. Until 1898 the Protectorate was administered by the Resident at Aden as a Dependency of the Government of India. In that year it was transferred to the charge of the Foreign Office, and on 1st April, 1905, to the Colonial Office.

From 1901 to 1920 the history of the Protectorate is largely a history of campaigns against Mohammed-bin-Abdulla Hassan, the "Mad Mullah." In 1901, 1902, and 1903, expeditions were sent against the Mullah, and in January, 1904, a crushing defeat was inflicted on him at Jidballeh. He then retired into Italian territory and claimed Italian protection. An agreement was made between him and the Italian Government, but the Mullah soon disregarded this agreement and commenced further aggressive actions against the tribes under British protection.

In 1908, a policy of coastal concentration was adopted. In March, 1910, all troops were withdrawn from the country, except for small garrisons at the three ports of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeilah. This policy did not prove a success, and in 1912-13 the strict coastal concentration was abandoned and administration in the interior gradually resumed. From 1914, desultory fighting continued until 1920, when a combined attack with land and air forces scattered the Mullah and his followers and captured all his forts and possessions. The Mullah fled into Abyssinia, where he died in February, 1921.

In recent years, conditions have been peaceful with the exception of inter-tribal cattle raids both in the Protectorate and outside its borders. As indulgence in these is the hereditary pastime of all Somalis, they need not be regarded very seriously, as they can be checked, and are being checked, by extension of administration.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

The Protectorate is administered by the Commissioner and in his absence by the Secretary to the Government. There is neither Executive nor Legislative Council. The powers of the Commissioner are defined in the Somaliland Orders in Council, 1929 and 1932.

Departments of Government.

The Departments of Government whose headquarters are at Berbera are those dealing with Finance, Police and Prisons, Medical Services, Customs, Posts and Telegraphs, and Public Works. The headquarters of the Veterinary Department are at Burao.

Military Garrison.

The Military Garrison of the Protectorate consists of the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, with headquarters at Burao and a detachment at Hargeisa.

Two aeroplanes of the Aden Squadron, Royal Air Force, are stationed in Somaliland. Aerodromes or landing grounds are maintained at Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, Hargeisa, Buramo, Zeilah, Erigavo, and Hudin.

District Administration.

For administrative purposes the Protectorate has been divided into five districts each of which is in the charge of a District Officer. The five districts are :—

Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, and Zeilah (includes Buramo).

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

The Somali population is estimated at 344,700. According to the non-native census taken in April, 1931, the non-native population was 2,683, including 68 Europeans, 520 Indians, 1,614 Arabs, 100 Abyssinians, and 258 Nyasaland natives of the Somaliland Camel Corps.

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

The staff of the Medical Department of the Protectorate, at the beginning of the year, consisted of the Principal Medical Officer, five Medical Officers, one Laboratory Assistant, three Assistant Surgeons, five Sub-Assistant Surgeons, three Clerks and subordinate staff. But, owing to the financial crisis, considerable reduction was effected and the staff at the end of the year consisted of a Medical Officer in Charge, three Medical Officers, three Assistant Surgeons, three Sub-Assistant Surgeons, two Clerks and subordinate staff.

A total of 38,867 out-patients and 1,966 in-patients were treated, as compared with 37,375 and 2,059 respectively in the previous year. The decrease in the in-patients can be accounted for by the much lower incidence of malaria.

The number of in-patients who avail themselves of the medical facilities at Burao and Hargeisa is constantly increasing.

Fourteen cases of smallpox occurred in the Protectorate ; there were no deaths.

Berbera Lunatic Asylum consists of a hollow square formed of cells and offices surrounding an open space the centre of which is covered by a roof on pillars. All the rooms are ten feet high and

there are twenty rooms and adequate offices. There were eleven patients remaining on 1st January, 1932, and twelve were admitted during the year; sixteen were discharged as cured and two as improved, and five remained on 31st December. There were no deaths.

There is now ample accommodation in the Leprosy Asylum for all the known lepers of the Protectorate. Sixteen remained on 1st January, 1932; 26 were admitted; two died, five were discharged as cured and twelve as improved.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

The normal Somali dwelling is the *gurgi*, a dome-shaped hut constructed of a pliable stick framework and covered with mats. The *gurgi* is movable and can be readily dismantled and packed on camels when a change of ground for any reason becomes necessary.

In the towns the trading Somali and the poorer class of Indian may sometimes be found living in an *arish* (wattle and daub hut).

Government officers are housed in well-built stone and plaster houses. Berbera is the only town with a pipe-borne water-supply. In other stations, the sanitary arrangements are of a primitive, though satisfactory character.

The indiscriminate setting up of *gurgis* and other temporary dwellings within townships is not permitted, and is controlled by the District Officers, who may set aside areas in which such temporary habitations may be installed.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

Agriculture is chiefly confined to the western half of the Protectorate—the Hargeisa and Buramo Districts—to a strip of country about 80 miles long and ranging in width from two to fifteen miles, with an average annual rainfall of about 17 inches. Latterly, however, it has been extending in parts of the plateau country in the middle of the Protectorate—at Adadleh, and between Hahi and Oadweina—under a crude native irrigation scheme which appears to be capable of extension. A close survey of the land under cultivation is being carried out so that, amongst other important objects to be achieved, the total acreage under some form of cultivation and the approximate number of persons cultivating can be estimated.

At present, it would appear that about 80,000 acres are cleared and cultivated, but for various reasons a reliable estimate of the number of persons actually working the land can only be furnished after the survey of both districts is completed. There are several thousand and most of them support a family.

The land is being marked off in areas which are held on a tribal or tribal-section basis, the " right " to any area being merely one of prolonged occupancy. The system of cultivation is one of peasant proprietorship. Plots ranging in size from one acre to fifteen acres are owned and worked by individual members of the tribe or section, the right of ownership of any plot depending entirely on continual cultivation of it. Abandonment of the plot or cessation of cultivation for more than one year automatically renders it available to any other member of the tribe willing to work it. An increasing tendency has been noticed amongst the natives towards regarding the occupancy of any plot as conveying an hereditary right to the plot on the part of the owner whether it is kept in cultivation or not, and towards the recognition of a right to buy, sell and let plots. Steps are being taken to impress on the natives the refusal of the Government to sanction any such " rights ".

There is no European ownership or interest of any kind in agriculture in the country, so that all efforts at improvement of any kind have to be carried out by the Government. The fact that new varieties of sorghum and maize, and especially a pulse (gram), are now being grown shows that by the exercise of tact improvement can be effected.

The crops now being produced are :—

(*a*) Sorghum.

(*b*) Maize.

(*c*) Gram.

(*d*) Barley.

The whole of the crop is consumed locally, the surplus amongst the producers being sold in the open market for consumption.

The total amounts passed through the Hargeisa market from 1st January to 31st December, 1932, were :—

	lb.
Sorghum	1,836,192
Maize	15,584

A small amount of gram was sold in villages, but nearly the whole of the crop was either used or kept for seed. The amount produced was considerably in excess of that in 1931.

The cultivation of barley has been begun in the west of the Hargeisa District, but is at present confined to only a few plots.

Of these amounts of sorghum and maize, a part was imported from Abyssinia, but as no means are employed to discriminate between the imported and the local product (whether by Customs duty or otherwise) no estimate of their relative amounts can be furnished. It is certain, however, that the proportion of the local product sold in the market—the surplus—though considerable, is small compared with the total amount annually produced. Attempts to estimate the latter are at present impracticable, but with the organization of agriculture that has been set going, a forecast of the annual crop should before long be possible.

Imported varieties of sorghum, including " feterita ", are now being grown. Maize has been cultivated on a larger scale than in previous years, and there has been a noticeable increase in the number of requests for imported seed that has been tried out under local conditions.

Seeing that, with the cessation of shifting cultivation, the maintenance of soil fertility will soon become important, the interest now being shown by the native in the cultivation of gram is worthy of special mention. In view of the considerable number of leguminous plants which grow wild in parts of the Protectorate, the possibility of making use of those that are eaten by stock is being considered.

Experiments in re-grassing abandoned areas and degraded savannahs have for reasons of economy been discontinued for the present.

For various reasons the completion of the demarcation, posting and surveying of the agricultural areas of Hargeisa District has been held up, but only a quarter of the district remains to be dealt with. Except in this quarter, shifting cultivation outside the areas, indiscriminate cutting down of timber and blocking the free use of tracks and access to water-holes have ceased, and there is a marked improvement in observance of the regulations on the part of the native.

The production, collection, and marketing of gum (acacia senegal, frankincense, myrrh, etc.) are at present quite unorganized. Of the total amount exported, part arrives in Berbera in transit from Abyssinia, and part is produced from natural plantations in the eastern part of the Protectorate, which are held on a tribal basis. With regard to the local product, a systematic examination and survey of the gum plantations (including those both of acacia senegal, and of the gum-resins frankincense, myrrh, etc.) has been started, and steps have been taken to have a properly tapped and graded sample of the former tested by a large manufacturing firm to ascertain its value and its chance of competing in the open market with gum from the Sudan and elsewhere. The information obtained by the two native gum inspectors who were sent to the Sudan for training has been placed on record and has been put

into a form enabling it to be imparted with the least difficulty to gum tappers, collectors and traders.

Arrangements have been made to have a test made of the commercial value of the nut of the Ye'eb tree (*Cordeauxia edulis*) which grows in the south-eastern part of the Protectorate. Somewhat similar to the almond, it is edible and is stated to be very nutritious.

Comparative yearly returns for the quantity exported are given under the heading "Exports". The figures, however, include all varieties, no distinction being made either as to quantity or value between true gums (acacia senegal, arabica) and gum-resins. Though such a distinction, from the point of view of encouragement of production and trade, is greatly to be recommended, unfortunately under present conditions—absence of grading, absence of any local marketing centre, etc.—it is scarcely practicable.

The arrangements now being made, including the establishment of a trading post at which all locally-produced gum will be sold, will greatly improve the position.

In 1931, 11,880 cwt. of gum were exported, valued for Customs duty at £13,726.

In 1932, 16,669 cwt. were exported, valued for Customs duty at £10,489.

A satisfactory feature of the crop season has been the complete absence of locust swarms from all the agricultural areas.

Minerals.

There has been no opportunity for an independent mineral survey during the year.

A scheme for the land-survey of the gum and gum-resin areas in the eastern part of the Protectorate was drawn up so that the survey might be carried on over a term of years as accurately and expeditiously as possible.

Towards the end of the year, an economic mineral reconnaissance survey was carried out for the Boundary Commission along the projected boundary from Buramo westwards to Biyo Anot, the provisional south-west corner point of the Protectorate. A report on this survey is in course of preparation, but it may be stated here that, though a few interesting geological features were discovered no mineral of economic importance was met with in the area examined.

The pumping plant on the bore-hole put down at Sillil under the water-boring scheme has continued to give satisfaction. On completion of the hole—depth 251 feet—the whole of the drilling plant was transferred to the plateau country, and drilling was subsequently carried on throughout the year (with unavoidable delays)

in the Haud portion of the Hargeisa and Burao Districts. The rocks of the area drilled in comprise a succession of eocene limestones, shales, and marls. By the end of the year four holes had been drilled to depths between 410 feet and 310 feet, but though in one site a possible water-bearing gravelly sand was penetrated, and though the sites chosen have been physiographically suitable, the holes have proved to be dry. Boring will shortly be carried out under different geological conditions.

Veterinary.

During the year the rinderpest outbreak was completely eradicated and the country was declared free of this disease. Pleuro-pneumonia-contagiosa is now confined to one small focus in one herd brought in from Abyssinia. No outbreaks have been reported in the country during 1932. Surra has been completely eradicated in the Somaliland Camel Corps. Treatment amongst native-owned camels has been extensive and it is hoped to have complete control of this disease in the near future.

A serious and widely distributed outbreak of African horse-sickness occurred during the year—the most serious outbreak for a number of years. A new and experimental line of treatment was adopted, purely empirical, and results were such as to encourage further trial and investigation.

Fisheries.

Although tropical fish of every variety, such as shark, great and small rays, baracuda and other sphyraenae, durab or wolf herring, dolphins, sea perches, sword fish, rock cod, different species of sardinella, tunny, mullets, horse mackerel, king fish, crawfish, and bêche-de-mer (trepang) are abundant, yet the few natives engaged in the fishery industry use only a handline with a single hook for trolling and bottom fishing and a light casting net to obtain bait. There is no co-operation between them and they sail out in their canoes to the fishing grounds only when dire necessity compels them. If one is exceptionally successful and realizes a substantial profit, he ceases to labour for as many days as it would have taken him to accumulate this sum from his average daily earnings. Consequently, the local supply of fish vended in the towns is considerably less than the actual demand. A few passing shark-fishing dhows, manned by Arabs, Sudanese, and Dankalis, occasionally stop at the ports to net sharks in the harbour and in the deep sea. After completing the operation of salting the fins for the Chinese market and the flesh for the consumption of their countrymen, and extracting the "*seefa*" or liver oil which is used for caulking native craft, they resume their voyage.

Since foreign dhows have been excluded from fishing within the French and Italian territorial waters, a number of native smacks

have been withdrawn from the mother-of-pearl and trochee shell fisheries. Within the limit to which the divers are now restricted, they cannot collect a sufficient quantity to realize a profit. Although the gamble of obtaining a valuable gem after opening thousands of mother-of-pearl shells always will be an incentive to engage in the industry, yet it is from the sale of the empty shells that the divers derive their maintenance.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

Sea Customs.

The value of the Protectorate sea-borne trade during the year 1932 was Rs. 62,19,857 contrasted with Rs. 68,09,491 in 1931. The following comparative table shows the value of the imports and exports, excluding specie, during the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total.*
	Rs.	*Rs.*	*Rs.*
1928 ...	82,51,443	75,26,270	1,57,77,713
1929 ...	62,75,587	31,84,893	94,60,480
1930 ...	49,27,136	33,47,095	82,74,261
1931 ...	41,35,139	26,74,352	68,09,491
1932 ...	40,77,827	21,42,030	62,19,857

IMPORTS.

The import trade during 1932, excluding specie to the value of Rs. 10,645, was distributed in the following proportions between the four Protectorate ports :—

Port.	*Amount.*	*Percentage.*				
		1928.	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*
	Rs.					
Berbera ...	31,61,737	62·1	71·8	81·1	79·4	77·5
Bulhar* ...	—	3·6	4·8	1·5	·5	—
Zeilah... ...	5,15,407	30·2	18·7	13·4	15·2	12·6
Makhir Coast...	4,00,683	4·1	4·7	4·0	4·9	9·9

* Bulhar was closed as a Customs port in May, 1931.

The following were the articles which principally contributed to the total value of the import trade:—

Article.	*Country of Origin.*	*Unit.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*
American Grey Sheeting.	America via Aden.	Yds.	9,750	38,410	18,150	12,750	—
China Grey Sheeting.	China via Aden.	„	—	—	—	27,450	—
Japan Grey Sheeting.	Japan via Aden.	„	2,161,230	1,546,265	2,720,773	2,312,752	1,939,687
Indian Grey Sheeting.	India via Aden.	„	—	52,500	—	—	—
Long Cloth (Manchester).	Manchester via Aden.	„	1,036,510	1,071,248	1,430,910	1,060,017	930,468
Long Cloth (Japanese).	Japan via Aden.	„	—	—	—	109,800	297,086
Dates ...	Persian Gulf via Aden.	Cwt.	121,592	51,395	45,445	65,276	81,588
Rice ...	India via Aden	„	208,462	183,686	127,944	112,034	100,182
Sugar ...	England, Java, Mauritius, Trieste, and Russia via Aden.	„	69.612	43,823	21,127	50,334	54,267

EXPORTS.

The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs. 56,175, amounted to Rs. 21,42,030, and was distributed in the following proportions between the four Protectorate ports:—

Port.	*Amount.*	*Percentage.*				
		1928.	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*
	Rs.					
Berbera ...	15,05,278	57·9	61·3	72·0	72·1	70·3
Bulhar* ...	—	4·5	6·9	·1	·1	—
Zeilah	4,62,944	34·3	25·6	22·3	20·1	21·6
Makhir Coast...	1,73,808	3·3	6·2	5·6	7·7	8·1

* Bulhar was closed as a Customs port in May, 1931

The following were the main indigenous products shipped from the Protectorate :—

Article.	*Country of destination.*	*Unit.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*
Bullocks...	Aden and Suez	Nos.	877	563	2,102	857	756
Sheep and Goats.	A few to Mukalla and Suez but majority to Aden.	„	74,543	60,079	76,127	104,682	136,497
Skins (sheep and goats).	Europe, America via Aden.	„	3,773,940	981,428	810,131	997,221	1,079,796
Hides ...	do.	Cwt.	2,404	2,832	71	37	—
Gums and Resins.	Europe, India via Aden.	„	14,678	16,759	13,261	11,880	16,669
Ghee ...	Aden ...	„	1,168	1,059	5,745	7,247	5,913

Land Customs.

Zeilah.

The statistics of the Land Customs Station for the years 1928-32 are as under :—

IMPORTS.

Item.	*Unit.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*
Millet (Sorghum) ...	Cwt. ...	87½	—	1	25	—
Wheat	„ ...	8½	—	—	7	—

EXPORTS.

Horses	Nos. ...	15	6	3	4	13
Camels	„	138	207	198	182	297
Donkeys	„ ...	2	2	15	4	4
Cattle...	„ ...	759	1,554	1,807	467	275
Sheep and Goats ...	„ ...	7,675	6,341	9,853	17,914	20,737
Salt	Cwt. ...	14,736	7,470	8,356	1,909	39,219

Salt.

The following table shows the working of the Zeilah salt industry for the period from 1928 to 1932 :—

Year.	*Quantity Exported.*		
	By land. Cwt.	*By sea.* Cwt.	*Total.* Cwt.
1928	14,736	18,822	33,558
1929	7,470	54,528	61,998
1930	8,356	12,282	20,638
1931	1,909	398	2,307
1932	39,219	845	40,064

The marked decrease for 1931 was due to the monopoly which was granted to the Company owning the Jibuti Salt Works (French Somaliland).

In 1932 considerable quantities of salt were supplied to Abyssinia and the increased exports by land were due to this cause.

Hargeisa and Buramo.

At Hargeisa, duty amounting to Rs. 162-11-0 was collected on 868 akaras or bundles of kat (katha edulis) imported from Abyssinia, and at Buramo differential duty to the amount of Rs. 118-5-0 was paid on goods originally imported by sea. In 1931 the corresponding items were Rs. 250-2-0 (1,250 akaras) and Rs. 26-6-0.

Transit Trade.

Customs duty at the rate of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* is levied on merchandise in transit between the Protectorate and Abyssinia. The value of goods imported and exported since 1928 was :—

	Rs.
1928	13,89,665
1929	10,78,879
1930	15,71,792
1931	12,42,200
1932	10,77,347

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The few Somalis who work for their living are employed either as coolies, clerks, and subordinates in Government Departments, or as personal servants. The approximate wages of the various types are :—

Coolies, 8 annas a day (8 hours).

Clerks, Rs.40 to Rs.350 a month (according to grade).

Personal servants, Rs.15 to Rs.45 a month.

The staple food of the Somali in Government or private employ is a daily ration composed of 1 lb. rice, ½ lb. dates, and 2 ounces of ghee, the value of which is usually about 3 annas.

The average cost of living for Europeans is about Rs.5 (7s. 6d.) a head *per diem* for a married couple. For one adult the cost would be relatively higher. The figure given does not include servants' wages, cost of entertaining, or club expenses.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

There have been indications during the last few years that the instinctive opposition of the Somalis to secular education for their children is losing strength. There is certainly strong competition among the more enlightened to secure places for their sons in the Gordon College at Khartoum, and petitions have been received for increased facilities for education. It is, however, characteristic of the Somali mentality that the scheme, commenced in 1930, and referred to in the previous report, has been productive, so far, of very meagre results. This scheme required the co-operation of the Somalis, but, although the monetary grants to certain Koranic schools were received with some enthusiasm, little effort was made by them to apply the funds seriously for the furtherance of education.

There are five Somali boys being educated at Gordon College, Khartoum, at Government expense, two of whom are being trained as *Kadis*. There is a small Government elementary school in Berbera attended by Somali, Arab, and Indian children.

There are no welfare institutions in British Somaliland.

Recreation.

There are primitive golf courses at most stations in the Protectorate, and tennis is played at all stations. There are cricket pitches at Berbera, Burao and Sheikh which are used when sufficient enthusiasts are gathered together. The greatest activity in this direction occurs on the rare occasions when the Protectorate is visited by one of His Majesty's ships.

The Somali is a very fine natural athlete and takes eagerly to cricket, football and hockey. A cricket match between two Somali sides provides a most amusing spectacle. There is occasionally a side-stake of a sheep or two and the greatest keenness results. An unfortunate batsman may have to face a fast bowler (or rather "thrower") with whom he may have some small private feud, and the result is sometimes some enthusiastic leg theory or "body-line bowling". Indeed the side winning the toss invariably bats first in order that they may have the last "throw". At hockey, as in cricket, the Somali is a great individualist and much training is needed to attain combination. Both games call for strict umpiring. The Police and Somaliland Camel Corps both field very good hockey teams, as also do the towns of Berbera, Burao and Sheikh.

Polo is played by the Camel Corps, and riding is a popular pastime with most Europeans in the country. Wart-hog abound in places, and opportunities for pig-sticking are plentiful, while the big and small game of the country provide good sport.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

There is a weekly service from Aden, which is worked by local contract, the ships connecting at Aden with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's outward and homeward sailing ships.

The following is a comparative table of the steam and motor vessels and country craft shipping which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the last five years :—

	1928.		*1929.*		*1930.*		*1931.*		*1932.*	
	Nos.	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*
Entered ...	740	87,065	909	85,498	510	59,327	581	72,673	694	51,923
Cleared ...	722	85,936	926	85,125	504	60,091	543	70,428	660	50,829

Roads.

No railways have been constructed in the Protectorate but there are 950 miles of motorable roads and tracks—divided into trunk roads and district roads, the former under the supervision of the Public Works Department and the latter maintained by the District Commissioners. These are suitable for general traffic and mechanical transport of medium weight.

The arterial roads of the Protectorate are :—

(1) Berbera—Sheikh—Burao—Ainabo—Adad—El Afweina —Erigavo—Baran.

(2) Berbera—Hargeisa—Nabadid—Buramo.

(3) Burao—Oadweina—Hargeisa.

(4) Zeilah—Loyi (French Frontier).

(5) Zeilah—Arahales.

The mileage of the various roads is as follows :—	*Miles.*
Berbera—Dubar	7
Berbera—Upper Sheikh	50
Sheikh—Burao	38
Burao—Ainabo	81
Ainabo—Adad	52
Adad—El Afweina	47
El Afweina—Erigavo	56
Erigavo—Baran	108
Berbera—Hargeisa	110
Hargeisa—Buramo	76
Nabadid—Tug Wajaleh (Abyssinian Frontier) ...	13
Berbera—Bulhar	43
Bulhar—Zeilah	102
Zeilah—Loyi (French Frontier)	18
Burao—Hargeisa	119
Zeilah—Arahalas	30
	950

Motor Transport.

The increase of traffic noticed during 1930 has been well maintained between Berbera and Hargeisa, Berbera and Burao, and Burao and Erigavo.

No improvement has been made in the introduction of British-made cars into the Protectorate by commercial firms. This is due to the lack of agencies and the difficulty in obtaining motor car spare parts within the Protectorate or in Aden.

Number of licensed private cars in the Protectorate	25
Number of licensed commercial cars in the Protectorate	34
Number of licensed private and commercial cars imported into the Protectorate during the current year.	
Private cars	6
Commercial cars	3
Number of private and commercial cars whose licences have not been renewed during the current year.	
Private cars	3
Commercial cars	3

The following statement shows the countries of origin of the licensed cars in the Protectorate :—

British	9
United States of America and Canada	48
French	2

The number of Government licensed cars is :—

25 cwt. Morris commercial	7
Morris Oxford (His Majesty's Commissioner's car)	1
Ford box car	1
Morris six wheelers (Water-Boring Party)	3

The total mileage of the Government motor transport in 1932 was :—

	Miles.
25 cwt. Morris commercial	40,968

The comparative cost per ton mile by Morris commercial and camel is :—

	Annas.
Morris commercial	5.3
Camel	4.5

The above figures do not include fourteen 30 cwt. Ford trucks which form the transport of the Mechanized Company of the Somaliland Camel Corps, nor the mechanical transport used by the British Somaliland Ethiopia Boundary Commission.

Posts and Telegraphs.

The headquarters of the Posts and Telegraphs Department are at Berbera.

The revenue and expenditure of the Department in respect of the last five years was as follows :—

	1932.	*1931.*	*1930.*	*1929.*	*1928.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	1,367	1,394	1,627	1,833	2,360
Expenditure ...	8,136	8,847	8,889	8,519	8,281

The Indian Post Office Act, 1898, was applied to British Somaliland by an order of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs dated 9th March, 1903, and the Protectorate Post Office was transferred from the Indian Administration and constituted under the above authority on the 1st June, 1903, the Protectorate becoming a member of the International Postal Union.

The operations against the Dervishes in 1903 necessitated the establishment of a number of Field Post Offices, the mails being carried by runners and camel riders. This system was maintained till 1925 for the conveyance of mails between the administrative stations in the interior and, in the absence of railways and motor cars, proved generally a cheap, reliable, and comparatively speedy service.

In 1925, a weekly motor car mail service was inaugurated, connecting Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, and Hargeisa. Other places are still served by mail runners.

Direct mails, which are exchanged weekly with London, Aden, and Bombay, are carried by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's mail steamers, regular connexions with which are made by local contract steamers between Aden and Berbera. Letters to and from the United Kingdom are delivered within from 12 to 14 days.

The following are the denominations of postage stamps on sale in the Protectorate :—

Annas, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12.
Rupees, 1, 2, 3, 5.

The issue and payment of British postal orders was introduced in January, 1905, and during the same year arrangements were made with the British and Indian Post Offices for a direct exchange of money orders. In 1907, the cash on delivery and insurance of parcels, and the value payable and insurance of parcels, etc., services were introduced with Great Britain and India including Aden, and in the following year the insured letter service to Great Britain was commenced. The insured box service with Great Britain and certain other countries was introduced in 1926. The direct exchange of money orders with the Kenya and Uganda Administration, which had been introduced in 1910, was suspended

in 1921 on account of exchange difficulties. Money orders to and from the East African Dependencies are exchanged through the intermediary of the Aden Post Office.

The present telegraph administration is the result of expansion and improvement of the military telegraphs used in connexion with the operations of the Somaliland Field Force in 1903 and subsequently, with the addition of wireless telegraphy.

A telegraph line now connects Berbera with Sheikh and Burao, which are also served by telephone.

Wireless stations (1½ kilowatt) are now in operation at Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, Buramo, and Zeilah. For financial reasons the latter was closed in February, 1932.

All stations are open to the public for inland and foreign telegraph traffic. The charges on foreign telegrams were increased in February, 1932.

The charges are :—

7 annas per word from any Protectorate station to Aden, plus 10 annas for twenty words and 5 annas for every additional ten words.

2 annas per word to any station within the Protectorate.

Rs.2-4-0* per word to the United Kingdom.

Rs.1-10-0* per word to India.

In April, 1927, a wireless receiving apparatus for the reception of the British Official News Service transmitted from Rugby was installed and has given satisfaction.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a branch of the commercial firm of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, Bombay, accepts deposits from private individuals, cashes cheques drawn on them, and arranges the transfer of funds to the United Kingdom and elsewhere through a branch of the firm at Aden.

The Government Savings Bank continues to gain ground. The rate of interest paid remains at 2½ per cent. and depositors from all classes of the community are taking advantage of the facilities offered.

Currency.

The monetary unit is the Government of India rupee at one shilling and sixpence. Rupees are legal tender for the payment of any amount and Government of India subsidiary coinage is legal tender for the payment of sums not in excess of five rupees. India Government Currency Notes are in circulation.

* Half this rate is charged for deferred telegrams.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial standard of weights and measures is in force. The Indian and Somali traders also use certain of the weights and measures in force in British India.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

A general building programme was carried out at all the more important stations in the Protectorate.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There is no Judicial or Legal Department in the Protectorate. The Criminal Courts consist of the Protectorate Court, District Courts of the first class, and District Courts of the second class. The Commissioner and Secretary to the Government are the judges of the Protectorate Court. District Courts of the first class are held by District Officers and such other officers as the Commissioner may so empower. District Courts of the second class are held by those officers so empowered by the Commissioner. The District Courts are empowered by law to try all cases in which natives are parties except for sedition, treason or murder. Cases beyond the jurisdiction of the District Courts, or possessing features which make a trial by the Protectorate Court desirable, are committed by the District Court for trial by the Protectorate Court. In cases where appeals lie from judgments of District Courts, the appeal is to the Protectorate Court of Appeal, which is the final Appellate Court in the Protectorate.

The law of the Protectorate is :—

(*a*) Coded law, i.e., the Indian Penal Code as applied by the Somaliland Administration of Criminal Justice Ordinance (Chapter 4 of the Revised Edition of the Laws), and local Ordinances.

(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan law.

A stricter legal control is now exercised. In past years, murder and homicide among the natives have been dealt with under tribal customs, but such crimes are now tried by the Criminal Courts. The infliction of the death penalty in particularly aggravated cases has not been without its effect upon native thought; and as the Somali realizes that the death penalty may follow conviction for murder, he will doubtless, as time goes on, modify his characteristic light-hearted outlook on the sanctity of human life.

In addition to Criminal and Civil cases under (*a*) tribal cases are investigated and judged by District Courts under a mixture of tribal custom, Mohammedan law and Indian law. This work forms the great bulk of the District Officers' work as the Somali's inherent love of litigation and refusal to accept any decision except from the highest court of appeal leads to much work of a trivial nature which, if neglected, may result in intertribal fighting. The Kadis deal with cases falling entirely under Mohammedan law and Courts of Akils or Elders have been set up to deal with the less important and contentious of tribal cases.

Crime.

Seven convictions for murder were recorded in 1932 as against two in 1931; two persons were sentenced to death and the remainder to various terms of imprisonment. There was a considerable increase in the number of convictions for offences against the person—484 compared with 186 in the preceding year. While convictions for offences against property rose from 141 to 208, other crimes diminished from 567 to 432. The number of *dia* cases (i.e., inter-tribal killings settled according to tribal custom) was 23, thirteen less than in 1931.

Police.

The Somaliland Civil Police are constituted under the Somaliland Civil Police Ordinance. The force is under the control of the Commissioner and has an establishment of five European officers, four Somali officers, and some 550 other ranks. Rank and file in stations other than Berbera are under charge of District Officers.

Garrison duties are carried out by the force at Berbera, Erigavo, Zeilah, and Buramo. The police are liable to serve as a military force when called upon by the Commissioner to discharge military duties.

The musketry of the force is of a high standard. In 1930 their team secured second place in the annual competition for the East and West African Police Shooting Cup. In 1931 they followed up their success by winning the Cup with a score of 631 out of a possible 672.

Prisons.

The established prisons in the Protectorate are the Central Prison in Berbera and five District Prisons at Zeilah, Burao, Hargeisa, Buramo, and Erigavo.

The Central Prison accommodates all convicts sentenced to terms of imprisonment exceeding six months in addition to all prisoners convicted in the Berbera District.

The District Prisons accommodate prisoners convicted within Districts who are sentenced to imprisonment for six months or less.

In 1930 the Commandant of Police was appointed Director of Prisons with powers of inspection of all prisons in the Protectorate, and further with power to appoint a European officer, subject to the approval of the Commissioner, to be in responsible charge of the Berbera Prison for the purpose of carrying out the regulations made under the Prison Discipline Ordinance, 1918. The administration of District Prisons remained in the hands of District Officers.

The Central Prison occupies an area of some 6,700 square yards, the whole being surrounded by a stone wall from 11 to 17 feet high. Accommodation is provided for male, female, and juvenile convicts. In addition to the usual wards and cells, the prison is equipped with a dispensary, two sick wards capable of accommodating four lying-in cases, a workshop, and the usual offices. The prison is lighted by electricity.

Committals to the Central Prison during 1931, as compared with the two preceding years, were as follows :—

Year.	*For want of bail or for debt.*	*For penal imprisonment.*
1932	7	395
1931	14	221
1930	12	178

The bulk of the labour provided by the prisoners is unskilled, and is used on work of public utility such as road making, quarrying stones, watering trees in Government grounds, etc.

A certain amount of skilled labour is carried out in the Central Prison where long-sentence prisoners are taught to manufacture and repair articles of use to other departments. The manufacture of cane furniture for the Public Works Department is the main industry.

The trade classes for carpenters and masons instituted in 1928 still continue to be most successful and the numbers attending these classes have been increased. The instructors are skilled artisans employed by the Public Works Department.

Section 2 of the Administration of Criminal Justice (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931, provides that no young person under the age of 16 years shall be sentenced to imprisonment if the court considers that suitable punishment can be imposed in some other way by placing on probation, or fine or corporal punishment, or committal to a place of detention, or otherwise. Local conditions would not permit of the institution of a regular probation system.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

Twenty Ordinances were enacted during 1932.

The Game Preservation (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 1 of 1932) was passed to prevent the hunting of animals from motor vehicles or aeroplanes.

The Alcoholic Liquors (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 3 of 1932), and the Customs (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 4 of 1932) give effect to the principle of preference for produce of the British Empire.

The Administrative Officers (Change of Titles) Ordinance (No. 16 of 1932) was passed to avoid the possibility of confusion which might have arisen from referring to the officer administering the Government, and to District Commissioners, as "Commissioners". Administrative Officers are now styled District Officers or Assistant District Officers.

Somaliland Order in Council, 1932.

This Order in Council amends the Principal Order in Council by constituting the office of Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief.

Factory, &c., Legislation.

There is no factory legislation in the Protectorate nor any legislative provision for sickness, old age, etc.

Compensation for accidents is provided for under the Employers Liability Ordinance (Chapter 60 of the Revised Edition of the Laws).

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The finances of the Protectorate continue to be seriously affected by the general trade depression. No new forms of revenue taxation have been introduced during the year although the principle of Preferential tariffs has been adopted in favour of Empire goods. A small increase in Customs revenue as compared with 1931, has resulted.

Revenue.

The revenue from all sources amounted to £102,894, an increase of £1,001 as compared with the previous year. The following table shows the principal sources of revenue for the years 1928-32.

	Customs.	*Licences and Taxes.*	*Court Fees and Government Services.*	*Other.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£	£
1928 ...	121,875	22,151	9,997	3,464	157,487
1929 ...	79,577	12,201	9,306	4,697	105,781
1930 ...	73,290	13,205	9,000	9,809*	105,304
1931 ...	63,347	14,484	11,585	12,477*	101,893
1932 ...	63,740	15,055	14,131	9,968*	102,894

* Includes receipts from the Colonial Development Fund amounting to £4,300 in 1930, £9,052 in 1931, and £4,128 in 1932.

Public Debt.

The net sum due by the Protectorate to the Imperial Treasury on 31st December, 1932, was £217,250. This sum represents the total of loans-in-aid of civil expenditure for the period 1931-32. The loan-in-aid received in 1932 was £16,000. Loans-in-aid are subject to repayment with interest as and when the finances of the Protectorate permit. No repayment has yet been made.

In addition to the loan-in-aid, the Protectorate is in receipt of an annual free grant in aid of military expenditure. The grant paid in 1932 was £42,000, and the total sum granted since 1st April, 1921, is £631,000.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year amounted to £156,240 and the following table shows the expenditure for the years 1928-32.

	Civil.	*Military.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£
1928	135,003	63,625	198,628
1929	152,614	54,453	207,067
1930	144,443*	54,583	199,027
1931	135,671*	50,091	185,762
1932	109,328*	46,912	156,240

A saving of approximately £23,000 as compared with the previous year, was made in the civil expenditure for 1932. This was due to the suspension of extraordinary works normally carried out by the Public Works Department, and to an all round reduction in Departmental expenditure in the interests of economy. The reduction in expenditure was also assisted by a further fall in the prices of commodities.

The saving of approximately £3,000 upon the military expenditure was made possible by the reorganization and partial mechanization of the Somaliland Camel Corps which was carried through during the year.

Colonial Development Fund.

The grant of £19,000 which was approved in 1930 for a scheme of water-boring in the Protectorate was increased during the year by a further grant of £2,500, to provide for an extension of the scheme for another year.

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* Includes expenditure from Colonial Development Fund grants amounting to £6,449 in 1930, £6,878 in 1931, and £3,838 in 1932.

The amounts received from the Fund and expended in the period 1930-32 have been as follows :—

	Receipts.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1930	4,300	6,449
1931	9,052	6,878
1932	4,128	3,838
	£17,480	£17,165

Financial Position on 31st December, 1932.

The surplus of revenue over expenditure amounted to £37,677 as follows :—

			£
Surplus on 1st January, 1932			33,023
Revenue :—		£	
Civil		102,490	
Military		404	
Loan/Grant		58,000	160,894
			193,917
Expenditure :—		£	
Civil		109,328	
Military		46,912	156,240
Surplus at 31st December, 1932			37,677
			193,917

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Authority :—The Customs Ordinance (Chapter 44, Revised Edition of the Laws) and amending Ordinances 1930 to 1932.

The Alcoholic Liquors Ordinance (Chapter 29, Revised Edition of the Laws) and amending Ordinances 1932.

The Customs duties are classified under two heads :—

(*a*) Specific Duties.
(*b*) *Ad Valorem* Duties.

The value at which *ad valorem* duty is assessed is :—

(*a*) in accordance with the tariff which is approved yearly on 1st April by His Excellency the Commissioner and which is open for inspection at each Customs House.

(*b*) Where no provision is made in the tariff—

(i) in the case of imports, the wholesale cash price, less trade discount for which goods of the like kind and quality are sold, or are capable of being sold, at the time and place of importation, without any abatement or deduction except the amount of the duties payable on the importation thereof; and

(ii) in the case of exports, the prevailing market price at the port of exportation as ascertained monthly by the Chief of Customs or as manifested on exporters' invoices.

TARIFF.

Specific Duties :—

Imports :—

	Ordinary Rate.			*Preferential Rate.*		
	Rs.	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
Alcoholic liquors	13	3	0	12	0	0
Rice, per 168 lb.	2	12	0	2	8	0
Sugar, per 28 lb.	0	14	0	0	12	0
Dates, per 168 lb.	1	12	0	0	0	0
Grey sheeting, per 750 yards ...	77	0	0	50	0	0
White long cloth, per 40 yards ...	5	8	0	4	0	0
Matches per standard box	0	0	4	0	0	3
Matches per large box	0	0	8	0	0	6

Ad valorem Duties :—

Rice (certain varieties), building materials, mats, matting and native pottery, naphthaline, fresh, dried and preserved fruit and vegetables, preserved provisions and articles of European attire ...	20 per cent.	10 per cent.
Live stock and all other goods, with certain exceptions	25 per cent.	15 per cent.

Exports :—

Live stock and local produce with certain exceptions	10 per cent.

The preferential rates are extended to articles produced or manufactured in and consigned from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Dominions, the Colonies and Protectorates, except the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, the Mandated Territories except Palestine, and India.

The following are the Customs Ports and Frontier Customs Stations at which the above import and export duties are in force :—

Customs Ports :—

Berbera, Zeilah, Las Khoreh, Heis, and Elayu.

Frontier Customs Stations :—

Zeilah, Elayu, Hargeisa, and Buramo (goods in transit only).

Subject to certain exceptions, a rebate of half of the Protectorate rates is allowed on all goods, having their origin within the administrative District of Zeilah, exported from Zeilah, and two-thirds on all goods imported at Zeilah for consumption within the administrative District of Zeilah.

Transit Rates :—

The value of all goods in transit shall be the wholesale cash price, less trade discount, for which goods of the like kind are sold or are capable of being sold at the time and place of importation without any abatement or deduction except the amount of the duties payable on the importation thereof.

Transit Rates on Goods in Transit :—

On all goods imported in transit to Abyssinia	1 per cent. *ad valorem*
On all goods imported in transit from Abyssinia	1 per cent. *ad valorem*

CHAPTER XVI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

All land in the Protectorate except in proclaimed townships may be said to be vested in the Somali tribe. Outside the townships no individual title to land is recognized (except in the case of a few small religious settlements) nor is any sectional title to any particular area recognized as giving any particular section of the tribe an exclusive right to that area. It is the habit of certain sections always to graze in the same area and this in practice gives them a prescriptive title to that area, but theoretically and legally individuals of other sections have the right to enter such areas and use the grazing as necessity dictates. In the western part of the Protectorate, where large areas of ground are under cultivation, the tribal title has been restricted to the extent that the right of individual cultivators to the enjoyment of the area cultivated is recognized, but only so long as effective cultivation is continued.

Government has taken powers to expropriate land for public purposes, on payment of compensation for damage done thereby to an individual or section. Land so expropriated becomes Crown Land.

The township areas are divided into two classes:—

(*a*) Old-established towns on the coast, such as Berbera and Zeilah; and

(*b*) Recently-established towns in the interior.

In class (*a*), the matter has been allowed to remain undefined. In practice, disputes as to ownership seldom arise.

In class (*b*), Government has introduced legislation to give to individuals a valid title to ground. All townships are of such recent growth that, except in five small plots in Hargeisa, no claim to freehold has been established, and leases or temporary occupation licences have been given to such of the present occupiers as wish to secure a legal title to their land.

Rainfall.

The comparatively small rains in the early part of the year made grazing somewhat poor and measures to meet a possible drought were under consideration. Happily the big rains did not disappoint, being well up to the average.

Political Situation.

Although on the whole the attitude to the Government of the tribes was fairly satisfactory, a most serious feature of the year was the frequent destruction by tribesmen of the pillars set up to mark the British Somaliland-Ethiopia Boundary. Much extra work was entailed in effecting repairs and fines were inflicted, under the Protecton of Boundary Pillars Ordinance, 1931, on the sections responsible, the Habr Yunis and Dolbahanta Ahamed Gerad in the Burao District, and the Ishaak in the Hargeisa District.

Burao District.—At the beginning of December the Dolbahanta rer Farah Hagar, rer Mohamed Egal, a powerful, wealthy, and recalcitrant sub-section, stood out against the seizure of stock, by order of the District Officer, from another sub-section of the rer Hagar. In the resulting affray an illaloe was killed and another wounded.

No resentment was shown at the announcement of the new fire-arms regulations, and about 80 rifles were voluntarily registered between the date when the new regulations were promulgated and the end of the year.

As regards inter-tribal relations, more than 15 cases of homicide were reported during the year. At one time the situation between the Mohamed Aboker and Musa Aboker, the two main divisions of the Habr Toljaala, was so tense as to necessitate their separation by an arbitrary line of demarcation, but at the end of the year the tension had relaxed and the restrictions of their movements were removed.

In February a danger of serious conflict between the Habr Yunis and Abyssinian Ogaden was averted by the prompt action of certain influential Burao akils, but at the beginning of December the Dolbahanta suffered at the hands of Italian irregulars and armed Mijertein. These incidents are now under investigation.

Hargeisa District.—The only raid of any size by the Ogaden on the British Ishaak tribes took place in April. Most of the raided stock was returned by the raiders, who also paid blood-money for one Ishaak man killed.

Ogaden—Ishaak Claims Conference.—This Conference, comprising British and Ethiopian delegates, was occupied for three months at Hargeisa settling claims between British Somalis and Ethiopian Somalis. A balance was struck, in favour of the British tribes, of 53,012 M.T. dollars. Much credit is due to Captain E. N. Park, M.C., the Senior British Delegate and District Officer, Hargeisa, for so successfully carrying out a difficult and delicate task. He was ably assisted by Mr. E. Barry and Mr. A. T. Curle, Assistant District Officers.

Erigavo District.—The general political situation was not quite so satisfactory as in 1931. Although the tribes of ths district do not graze in the vicinity of the Ethiopian border, they keep themselves in touch with current events and uneasiness prevails, as in Burao and Hargeisa, at the demarcation of the boundary.

Zeilah District.—A particularly peaceful year is recorded, with little crime and no political disturbance.

British Somaliland-Ethiopia Boundary Commission,—The Ethiopian section of the Commission reached Berbera via Jibuti and Zeilah early in January. After holding the first plenary meetings, the British and Ethiopian Sections moved to Hargeisa towards the end of the month. It was agreed that the intersection of 44°E./9°N. should be substituted for Arran Arrhe as a boundary point, and, when this had been determined and marked, both Sections moved camp to Bohodle.

The actual cutting of the boundary commenced on 16th March from a point just south of Bohodle, and shortly afterwards the headquarters of both Sections were moved to Burao.

The British and Ethiopian Sections agreed to demarcate westwards and eastwards respectively from this point. The Ethiopian Section reached the terminal point of the Anglo-Italian Commission at the intersection of 47°E./8°N., a distance of 78½ kilometres on 21st September, while the British Section reached the intersection of 44°E./9°N., a distance of 270 kilometres, on 15th October.

This completed the demarcation of over half the total length of the boundary. The line is being marked by a series of numbered and intervisible stone cairns about 1,200 yards apart from each other spaced along a lane four metres wide cut through the bush. This lane is passable for motor transport.

In November the headquarters of the British and Ethiopian Sections were established at Buramo and Taffari Bar respectively, where they remained for the rest of the year. During this period, both Sections were occupied with political discussions and with trigonometrical and other reconnaissances of the western half of the boundary.

Air survey methods are being employed for the preparation of the map of the boundary, and a flight of the Royal Air Force has accordingly been detached from the Aden Command to carry out the necessary air photography, ahead of the survey work and demarcation. This was very nearly completed by the end of November; but a change of weather then occurred and further progress realised during December was very small.

Governorship.

In the early part of the year the designation of the officer administering the Government was changed from Governor to Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief, and on the 18th June, Major A. S. Lawrance, C.M.G., D.S.O., Secretary to the Government, took the oaths of office on his appointment as His Majesty's Commissioner. He went on leave to England on the 31st October, and Major B. H. Horsley, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., assumed the administration of the Government.

Mr. C. H. F. Plowman, O.B.E., Consul at Harar, was appointed Secretary to the Government, to date from the 1st January, 1933, though he will not take up his duties until the termination of his secondment to the British Somaliland-Ethiopia Boundary Commission.

APPENDIX.

List of Publications relating to British Somaliland.

	£ s. d.	To be purchased from:
Laws of the Somaliland Protectorate—Revised Edition	1 0 0	The Treasurer, Berbera, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Notices, Proclamations, Regulations and Rules in force on the 30th June, 1930	1 0 0	The Treasurer, Berbera, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Report on the Somaliland Agricultural and Geological Department for 1927 and 1928 ...	0 5 0	Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Somaliland Annual Geological Report, 1929 ...	0 2 0	Crown Agents for the Colonies.

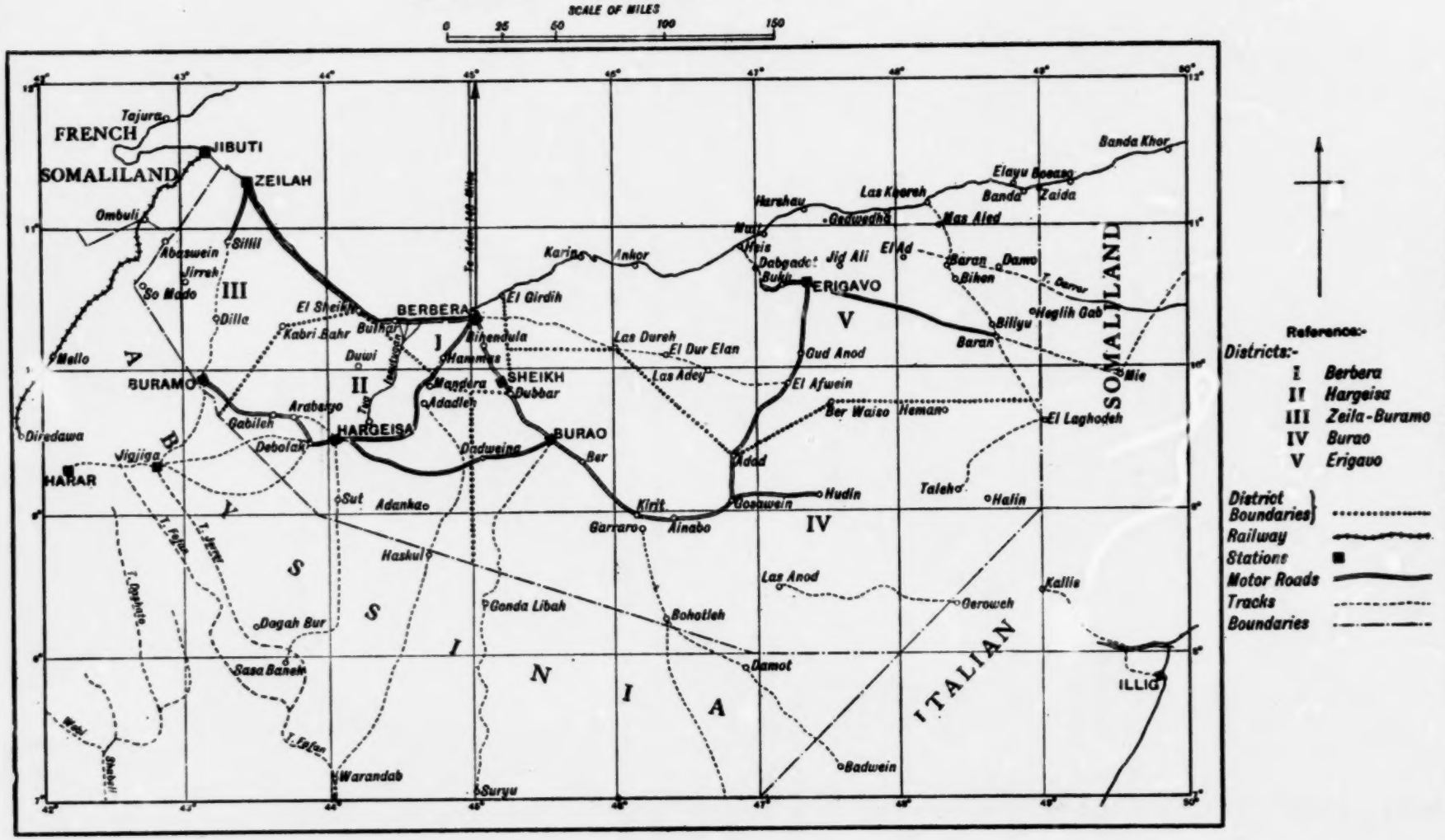
British Somaliland (Drake-Brockman), London, 1917.

Somaliland (Hamilton), London, 1911.

The Mad Mullah of Somaliland (Jardine), London, 1923.

Sun, Sand and Somals (Rayne), London, 1921.

BRITISH SOMALILAND.



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Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1932. Cmd. 4121. 9*d.* (10*d.*).

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Changes in the Demand for Butter. (E.M.B. 39.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

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Wool Quality: A Study of the Influence of various contributory factors, their significance and the technique of their measurement. Cloth. £1 1*s.* (£1 1*s.* 9*d.*).

Australian and New Zealand Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the deterioration in transit of Imported Australian and New Zealand Fruit, 1927–30. (E.M.B. 46.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Banana Breeding at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. (E.M.B. 47.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Imperial Sugar Cane Research Conference, 1931. Report of Proceedings. 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 11*d.*).

Further Changes in the Demand for Butter, July, 1928, and July, 1931. Report of an Investigation into the Retail Marketing of Butter in Nottingham. (E.M.B. 48.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Fruit Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 49.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

The Demand for Honey. (E.M.B. 50.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Milk Price Margins. A Report on the Differences between Producers' Prices, Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Liquid Milk in certain Large Cities in Different Countries. (E.M.B. 51.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Dairy Produce Supplies in 1931. (E.M.B. 52.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1931, to May, 1932. (E.M.B. 53.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

SOMALILAND, 1933

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Annual Report, 1931. 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Protectorate of British Somaliland has for its northern boundary about 450 miles of coast-line on the Gulf of Aden and extends from Loyi Ada (Hadu), longitude 43° 15′ East, as far as the forty-ninth degree of East longitude, close to the town of Banda Ziada.

The Protectorate marches with Italian Somaliland from Banda Ziada to a point in latitude 8° North; thence with Abyssinia to near Jalelo, and with French Somaliland from near Jalelo to Loyi Ada (Hadu) on the coast.

The area of the Protectorate is about 68,000 square miles. Topographically it consists of the following four main features, extending southwards from the coast-line:—

(*a*) An almost bare, gentle rising, alluvial coastal plain ranging in breadth from about half-a-mile in the east to about 60 miles in the west; this is succeeded by

(*b*) a maritime plain, with a similar slope, on which are numerous broken ridges of limestone and hills of igneous rock, and which varies in breadth from a mile or two in the east and west to about 30 miles in the middle. The native name for both the coastal and maritime plains is *Guban*.

(*c*) A vertical escarpment of limestone about 2,000 feet thick, resting on igneous rocks which, at the bottom of the scarp, form foothills and ridges up to 3,500 feet in height. The escarpment (native name *Golis*) trends roughly east and west, and is pronounced from the eastern boundary to a little west of the middle line of the Protectorate. Further west, it is largely replaced by ridges of igneous rock.

(*d*) From the top of the scarp, a long, wide, and almost featureless plateau (native name *Ogo*) slopes gently downwards to the south-east into the Haud, a belt of thorn wilderness and pasturages, extending into Ethiopian and Italian territory. Each of these four main features has its characteristic vegetation, dependent on climate and rainfall.

The maritime plain, with a very hot climate and very small rainfall, supports in places frankincense and myrrh trees. The ridges and foothills near the base of the escarpment, with a cooler climate and larger rainfall, are, especially in the eastern half of the country, partly covered with trees of *Acacia Verek*. On the top of the escarpment, at altitudes between 4,500 and 6,000 feet, a species of box (*Buxus Hildebrandtii*) is very common, especially in the Erigavo District. Some thirty miles west of Sheikh, this species flourishes on granitic hills at altitudes down to 3,500 feet.

At altitudes above 6,000 feet on top of the escarpment are patches of cedar (*Juniperus Procera*). In one locality, north-west of Erigavo, where the scarp reaches a height of 7,500 feet, these trees form a small forest, and they have also been found at intervals almost up to the south-western boundary.

On the interior plateau, the average rainfall ranges from about 20 inches a year in the west to about 10 inches in the east and 8 inches in the south and south-east. The plateau consists in part of an open savannah of thorny acacias, in part of grass-covered plains; and though, over the greater part of it, the rainfall is low and the grazing is on the whole somewhat indifferent, this part of the Protectorate supports the bulk of the stock—camels, sheep, goats and cattle—on which most of the native population subsist.

On parts of the maritime plain, among the foothills of the escarpment, and, especially in the west, on several flats between the ridges to the north of the main escarpment, are large and small areas of *Sansevieria Ehrenbergii* (*Hig*), a plant which is somewhat similar to sisal, and of which the fibre is considered to be of some commercial value.

Owing to the scanty water-supply, the camel is the animal most suited to the country, but cattle thrive, especially in the hills, and sheep and goats do excellently so long as the rainfall is up to the average.

The chief ports are Berbera, Zeilah, and Las Khoreh.

There are no hotels of any sort at Berbera, or elsewhere in the country. There are furnished rest-houses at Berbera, Burao, and Hargeisa, but only that at Berbera provides messing facilities. There are no European private residents in British Somaliland, and it is necessary for all intending visitors to obtain permission from the Secretary to the Government to enter the Protectorate. It is essential for such visitors to arrive completely self-contained, unless they have made arrangements privately for accommodation with officers of the Protectorate.

Climate.

Somaliland has a small but fairly regular rainfall. The dry season lasts from December to March, during which period there is practically no rain. The big rains fall during April and May and they are succeeded by the south-west monsoon (called locally the *kharif*), which blows from June till October—the hottest period of the year. The *kharif* is very trying to Europeans, particularly on the coast, where the heat and dust make concentrated work difficult.

On the higher ground in the interior the heat is at no time intolerable, and the nights are generally cool.

From November to March the climate is quite pleasant, the heat on the coast being tempered by the sea breeze (north-east monsoon).

The rainfalls in the country are very local and consequently there is often considerable variation in local conditions as to grazing, rainpools, etc.

The meteorological statistics are as follows:—

Station.	*Total Rainfall.*	*Mean Maximum.*	*Mean Minimum.*	*Absolute Maximum.*	*Absolute Minimum.*	*Total Rainfall for previous four years.*			
	1933.					*1932.*	*1931.*	*1930.*	*1929.*
	Inches	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Berbera ...	0·86	92·9	78·5	111·4	65·0	2·20	1·43	4·63	0·37
Sheikh ...	17·07	79·1	53·5	92·0	34·0	18·79	19·43	27·02	25·04
Burao ...	5·58	86·6	62·5	98·0	49·0	5·58	9·79	6·50	9·25
Hargeisa ...	12·42	86·3	56·6	97·0	38·0	15·28	25·35	20·67	17·07
Zeilah ...	2·05	90·9	76·5	108·0	63·0	8·12	0·66	8·83	1·81
Buramo ...	15·90	83·0	59·5	94·0	35·0	25·99	20·24	22·55	16·42
Erigavo ...	9·81	77·4	50·1	86·0	34·0	11·07	10·53	12·84	11·90

N.B.—Highest velocity of wind recorded in Berbera during the year 1933 was 62 miles per hour on 29th July.

History.

Prior to 1884 the administration of the Somali Coast had been in the hands of the Egyptian Government. Upon its collapse in 1884, a Protectorate was proclaimed by Great Britain and the boundaries were settled by agreements with France, Italy, and Abyssinia. Until 1898 the Protectorate was administered by the Resident at Aden as a Dependency of the Government of India. In that year it was transferred to the charge of the Foreign Office, and on 1st April, 1905, to the Colonial Office.

From 1901 to 1920 the history of the Protectorate is largely a history of campaigns against Mohammed-bin-Abdulla Hassan, the "Mad Mullah." In 1901, 1902, and 1903, expeditions were sent against the Mullah, and in January, 1904, a crushing defeat was inflicted on him at Jidballeh. He then retired into Italian territory and claimed Italian protection. An agreement was made between him and the Italian Government, but the Mullah soon disregarded this agreement and commenced further aggressive actions against the tribes under British protection.

In 1908, a policy of coastal concentration was adopted. In March, 1910, all troops were withdrawn from the country, except for small garrisons at the three ports of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeilah. This policy did not prove a success, and in 1912-13 the strict coastal concentration was abandoned and administration in the interior gradually resumed. From 1914, desultory fighting continued until 1920, when a combined attack with land and air forces scattered the Mullah and his followers and captured all his forts and possessions. The Mullah fled into Abyssinia, where he died in February, 1921.

In recent years, conditions have been peaceful with the exception of inter-tribal cattle raids both in the Protectorate and outside its borders. As indulgence in these is the hereditary pastime of all Somalis, they need not be regarded very seriously, as they can be checked, and are being checked, by extension of administration.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Protectorate is administered by the Commissioner and in his absence by the Secretary to the Government. There is neither Executive nor Legislative Council. The powers of the Commissioner are defined in the Somaliland Orders in Council, 1929 and 1932.

Departments of Government.

The Departments of Government whose headquarters are at Berbera are those dealing with Finance, Police and Prisons, Medical Services, Customs, Posts and Telegraphs, and Public Works. The headquarters of the Veterinary Department are at Burao, and those of the Agricultural and Geological Department at Hargeisa.

District Administration.

For administrative purposes the Protectorate has been divided into five districts each of which is in charge of a District Officer. The five districts are Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, and Zeilah (includes Buramo).

Military Garrison.

The Military Garrison of the Protectorate consists of the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, with headquarters at Burao and a detachment at Hargeisa.

Two aeroplanes of the Aden Squadron, Royal Air Force, are stationed in Somaliland. Aerodromes or landing grounds are maintained at Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, Hargeisa, Buramo, Zeilah, Erigavo, Hudin, and Las Anod.

III.—POPULATION.

The Somali population is estimated at 344,700. According to the non-native census taken in April, 1931, the non-native population was 2,683, including 68 Europeans, 520 Indians, 1,614 Arabs, 100 Abyssinians, and 258 Nyasaland natives of the Somaliland Camel Corps.

IV.—HEALTH.

The staff of the Medical Department of the Protectorate consists of a Medical Officer in Charge, promoted Senior Medical Officer towards the end of the year, three Medical Officers, three Assistant Surgeons, three Sub-Assistant Surgeons, two Clerks, and subordinate staff.

Well-equipped hospitals are established at Berbera, Burao, Buramo, Erigavo, and Hargeisa and smaller ones at Zeilah and Sheikh, as well as dispensaries at Las Khoreh and the camp for destitutes at Barran.

A total of 41,563 out-patients and 2,430 in-patients were treated, as compared with 38,867 and 1,966 respectively in the previous year. The increase in the patients can be accounted for by the much higher incidence of smallpox, relapsing fever, and malaria.

The number of in-patients who avail themselves of the medical facilities at Burao and Hargeisa is constantly increasing.

Thirty-three cases of smallpox occurred in the Protectorate and there were four deaths.

Berbera Lunatic Asylum consists of a hollow square formed of cells and offices surrounding an open space the centre of which is covered by a roof on pillars. All the rooms are ten feet high and there are twenty rooms and adequate offices. There were five patients remaining on 1st January, 1933, and fifteen were admitted during the year; six were discharged as cured and thirteen remained on 31st December. There was one death.

There is now ample accommodation in the Leprosy Asylum for all the known lepers of the Protectorate. Twenty-three remained under treatment on 1st January, 1933; five were admitted; one died, four were discharged cured, and one was sent back to Abyssinia in an improved condition.

Failure of the rains during the past three or four years in the Warsangeli Area of the Erigavo District caused heavy losses of stock and consequent widespread destitution amongst the natives. A Relief Camp was started about the middle of the year, and a daily average of about 2,500-3,000 people have been maintained by Government.

As no dentist is available in the Protectorate, all European and non-European officers are permitted to visit Aden for the purpose of obtaining dental treatment if a medical certificate has first been obtained to the effect that dental treatment is necessary in the interest of the general health of the officer concerned, and that the treatment cannot be postponed without detriment to the officer's health.

V.—HOUSING.

The normal Somali dwelling is the *gurgi*, a dome-shaped hut constructed of a pliable stick framework and covered with mats. The *gurgi* is movable and can be readily dismantled and packed on camels when a change of ground for any reason becomes necessary.

In the towns the trading Somali and the poorer class of Indian may sometimes be found living in an *arish* (wattle and daub hut).

Government officers are housed in well-built stone and plaster houses. Berbera is the only town with a pipe-borne water-supply. In other stations, the sanitary arrangements are of a primitive, though satisfactory character.

The indiscriminate setting up of *gurgis* and other temporary dwellings within townships is not permitted, and is controlled by the District Officers, who may set aside areas in which such temporary habitations may be installed.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

Agriculture is chiefly confined to the western half of the Protectorate—the Hargeisa and Buramo Districts—to a strip of country about 80 miles long and ranging in width from two to fifteen miles, with an average annual rainfall of about 17 inches. Latterly, however, it has been extending in parts of the plateau country in the middle of the Protectorate—at Adadleh, and between Hahi and Oadweina—under a crude native irrigation scheme which appears to be capable of extension. A close survey of the land under cultivation is being carried out so that, amongst other important objects to be achieved, the total acreage under some form of cultivation and the approximate number of persons cultivating can be estimated. At present, it would appear that about 80,000 acres are cleared and

cultivated, but for various reasons a reliable estimate of the number of persons actually working the land can only be furnished after the survey of both districts is completed. There are several thousand and most of them support a family.

The land is being marked off in areas which are held on a tribal or tribal-section basis, the " right " to any area being merely one of prolonged occupancy. The system of cultivation is one of peasant proprietorship. Plots ranging in size from one acre to fifteen acres are owned and worked by individual members of the tribe or section, the right of ownership of any plot depending entirely on continual cultivation of it. Abandonment of the plot or cessation of cultivation for more than one year automatically renders it available to any other member of the tribe willing to work it. An increasing tendency has been noticed amongst the natives towards regarding the occupancy of any plot as conveying an hereditary right to the plot on the part of the owner whether it is kept in cultivation or not, and towards the recognition of a right to buy, sell and let plots. Steps are being taken to impress on the natives the refusal of the Government to sanction any such " rights ".

There is no European ownership or interest of any kind in agriculture in the country, so that all efforts at improvement of any kind have to be carried out by the Government. The fact that new varieties of sorghum and maize, and especially a pulse (gram), are now being grown shows that by the exercise of tact improvement can be effected.

The crops now being produced are (*a*) sorghum, (*b*) maize, (*c*) gram, (*d*) barley, and (*e*) wheat (an Abyssinian variety).

The total amounts passed through the Hargeisa market from 1st January to 31st December, 1933, were sorghum, 733,171 lb; maize, 10,536 lb.

Some of the sorghum and maize was imported from Abyssinia, but as no means are employed to discriminate between the imported and the local product (whether by customs duty or otherwise) no estimate of their relative amounts can be furnished. It is certain, however, that the proportion of the local product sold in the market —the surplus—though considerable, is small compared with the total amount annually produced. Attempts to estimate the latter are at present impracticable, but with the survey of agriculture that has been set going a forecast of the annual crop should before long be possible.

The falling-off in the sale of jowari in 1933 compared with 1932 is attributable to the fact that much of the crop was not brought to Hargeisa for sale but, in accordance with a growing practice, was disposed of in places outside, *e.g.*, Gibileh.

An increasing amount of gram was grown and used on the spot by cultivators. The cultivation of barley and wheat increased appreciably and there is reason to believe both are being preferred to sorghum as articles of food.

Seeing that with the cessation of shifting cultivation the maintenance of soil fertility will soon become important, the interest now being shown by the native in the cultivation of gram is worthy of special mention.

Experiments in re-grassing abandoned areas and degraded savannahs have for reasons of economy been discontinued for the present.

The demarcation, posting, and surveying of the agricultural areas have been continued as opportunity offered, and in Hargeisa District only a few areas remain to be dealt with. Except in these, shifting cultivation, indiscriminate cutting down of timber, and interference with the free use of tracks and access to water-holes have ceased, and the improvement in observance of the regulations on the part of the native has become more marked.

With regard to the local production of gum (Acacia Senegal, frankincense, myrrh, etc.), the systematic examination and survey of the plantations have been carried on throughout the year. Carefully collected and graded samples of " Adad " gum (from Acacia Senegal) have been sent to a large manufacturing firm, and the report on the samples should be available before the middle of 1934.

A satisfactory feature of the crop season has been the complete absence of locust swarms from all the agricultural areas.

Minerals.

No further independent mineral survey has been made during the year.

At the beginning of the year an economic reconnaissance survey was carried out for the British Somaliland-Ethiopian Boundary Commission along the projected boundary from Biyo Anot through Somadu and the Marmar Range north-eastwards towards Zeilah. A report on this survey was drawn up for the Commission. Some very interesting geological features were discovered, but no mineral of economic importance. The Marmar Range, however, hitherto more or less unknown, proved to contain probably the best mountain grazing in the Protectorate.

Water Boring.

The windmill pumping plant at Sillil has continued to give satisfaction. Drilling with the Star rig was carried on at selected spots on grazing areas in the Haud portion of the Hargeisa District, but no supply of water was found at depths down to 350 feet. In the Hargeisa valley water was found with the rig in three holes, in two of them at about 65 feet and in the third at 14 feet. In two of the holes the supply was over 700 gallons an hour. Arrangements are being made to install a windmill pump on one of the holes to supply the station.

Drilling was also carried out in the schistose greenstone country at Buramo station, but no permanent supply was obtained from any of the three holes put down to a depth of 150 feet. Towards

the end of the year efforts were begun to obtain a permanent supply of drilling with the rig on the large grazing area of the Tug Wajaleh. It is hoped that water will be got on this area in shallow depressions in or below the Nubian sandstone and at a depth not below 300 feet.

Veterinary.

During the year rinderpest again broke out in the Hargeisa and Buramo areas. The first cases occurred amongst animals which had been grazing in the area each side of the Anglo-Ethiopian Boundary. The disease was kept under control by quarantine methods combined with double inoculation.

Pleuro-pneumonia-contagiosa has been eradicated and the country is at present free of this disease.

Surra has been non-existent amongst animals of the Somaliland Camel Corps, the prophylactic use of Naganol for any animals proceeding into a surra-infected area having so far proved efficient. Treatment with Naganol amongst native-owned animals has been continued throughout the year with success.

Only a few sporadic cases of African horse-sickness occurred.

Mange amongst sheep and goats in the Erigavo area has been very prevalent: it has been treated fairly successfully by hand-dressing, but the question of building of dips is under consideration.

Towards the end of the year a meeting was held with the Director of Veterinary Services of Abyssinia and the possibilities of co-operation in control of epidemics was discussed. As a result it is hoped that steps will be taken to co-operate in the control of epidemics on the Anglo-Ethiopian border.

Fisheries.

Although tropical fish of every variety, such as shark, great and small rays, baracuda and other sphyraenae, durab or wolf herring, dolphins, sea perches, sword fish, rock cod, different species of sardinella, tunny, mullets, horse mackerel, king fish, crawfish, and bêche-de-mer (trepang) are abundant, yet the few natives engaged in the fishery industry use only a handline with a single hook for trolling and bottom fishing and a light casting net to obtain bait. There is no co-operation between them and they sail out in their canoes to the fishing grounds only when dire necessity compels them. If one is exceptionally successful and realizes a substantial profit, he ceases to labour for as many days as it would have taken him to accumulate this sum from his average daily earnings. Consequently, the local supply of fish on sale in the towns is considerably less than the actual demand. A few passing shark-fishing dhows, manned by Arabs, Sudanese, and Dankalis, occasionally stop at the ports to net sharks in the harbour and in the deep sea. After completing the operation of salting the fins

for the Chinese market and the flesh for the consumption of their countrymen, and extracting the "*seefa*" or liver oil which is used for caulking native craft, they resume their voyage.

Since foreign dhows have been excluded from fishing within the French and Italian territorial waters, a number of native smacks have been withdrawn from the mother-of-pearl and trochee shell fisheries. Within the limit to which the divers are now restricted, they cannot collect a sufficient quantity to realize a profit. Although the gamble of obtaining a valuable gem after opening thousands of mother-of-pearl shells always will be an incentive to engage in the industry, yet it is from the sale of the empty shells that the divers derive their maintenance.

VII.—COMMERCE.

Customs.

The value of the Protectorate trade during the year 1933 was Rs.57,42,837, contrasted with Rs. 62,19,857 in 1932. The following comparative table shows the value of the imports and exports, excluding specie, during the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total.*
	Rs.	*Rs.*	*Rs.*
1929 ...	62,75,587	31,84,893	94,60,480
1930 ...	49,27,166	33,47,095	82,74,261
1931 ...	41,35,139	26,74,352	68,09,491
1932 ...	40,77,827	21,42,030	62,19,857
1933 ...	37,88,671*	19,54,166*	57,42,837*

* Exclusive of goods in transit previously included.

Imports.

The import trade during 1933, excluding specie to the value of Rs.2,100, was distributed in the following proportions between the four Protectorate ports :—

Port.	*Amount.*	*Percentage.*				
		1929.	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*
	Rs.					
Berbera ...	34,80,518	71·8	81·1	79·4	77·5	78·0
Bulhar* ...	—	4·8	1·5	·5	—	—
Zeilah... ...	6,23,601	18·7	13·4	15·2	12·6	16·4
Makhir Coast...	2,11,511	4·7	4·0	4·9	9·9	5·6

* Bulhar was closed as a Customs port in May, 1931.

The following were the articles which principally contributed to the total value of the import trade :—

Article.	*Country of Origin.*	*Unit.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.**
American Grey Sheeting.	America via Aden.	Yds.	38,410	18,150	12,750	—	—
China Grey Sheeting.	China via Aden.	,,	—	—	27,450	—	—
Russian Grey Sheeting.	Russia via Aden.	,,	—	—	—	—	7,200
Indian Grey Sheeting.	India via Aden.	,,	52,500	—	—	—	—
Japan Grey Sheeting.	Japan via Aden.	,,	1,546,265	2,720,773	2,312,752	1,939,687	694,263
Long Cloth (Manchester).	United Kingdom via Aden.	,,	1,071,248	1,430,910	1,060,017	930,468	618,928
Long Cloth (Japanese).	Japan via Aden.	,,	—	—	109,800	297,086	42,370
Dates ...	Persian Gulf via Aden.	Cwt.	51,395	45,445	65,276	81,588	43,125
Rice ...	India via Aden	,,	183,686	127,944	112,034	100,182	160,215
Sugar ...	United Kingdom, Java, Mauritius, Italy, and Russia via Aden.	,,	43,823	21,127	50,334	54,267	62,044

* Exclusive of goods in transit previously included.

Exports.

The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.94,470, amounted to Rs.19,54,166 and was distributed in the following proportions between the four Protectorate ports :—

Port.	*Amount.*	*Percentage.*				
		1929.	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*
	Rs.					
Berbera ...	19,46,981	61·3	72·0	72·1	70·3	68·3
Bulhar* ...	—	6·9	·1	·1	—	—
Zeilah	5,10,838	25·6	22·3	20·1	21·6	25·4
Makhir Coast...	1,23,439	6·2	5·6	7·7	8·1	6·3

* Bulhar was closed as a Customs port in May, 1931

The following were the main indigenous products shipped from the Protectorate :—

Article.	*Country of destination.*	*Unit.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.**
Bullocks...	Aden and Suez	Nos.	563	2,102	857	756	1,086
Sheep and Goats.	A few to Mukalla and Suez but majority to Aden.	„	60,079	76,127	104,682	136,497	120,189
Skins (sheep and goats).	Europe, America via Aden.	„	981,428	810,131	997,221	1,079,796	1,715,750
Hides ...	do.	Cwt.	2,832	71	37	—	—
Gums and Resins.	Europe, India via Aden.	„	16,759	13,261	11,880	16,669	8,467
Ghee ...	Aden ...	„	1,059	5,745	7,247	5,913	1,643

* Exclusive of goods in transit previously included.

Land Customs.

ZEILAH.

The statistics of the Land Customs station for the years 1929-1933 are as under :—

IMPORTS.

Item.	*Unit.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*
Millet (Sorghum) ...	Cwt. ...	—	1	25	—	—
Wheat	„ ...	—	—	7	—	—

EXPORTS.

Horses	Nos. ...	6	3	4	13	28
Camels	„ ...	207	198	182	297	455
Donkeys	„ ...	2	15	4	4	20
Cattle...	„ ...	1,554	1,807	467	275	569
Sheep and Goats ...	„ ...	6,341	9,853	17,914	20,737	20,600
Salt	Cwt. ...	7,470	8,356	1,909	39,219	53,765

Salt.—The following table shows the working of the Zeilah salt industry for the period from 1929 to 1933 :—

Year.	*Quantity Exported.* *By land.* *Cwt.*	*By sea.* *Cwt.*	*Total.* *Cwt.*
1929	7,470	54,528	61,998
1930	8,356	12,282	20,638
1931	1,909	398	2,307
1932	39,219	845	40,064
1933	53,765	318	54,083

The marked decrease for 1931 in salt exported by sea was due to the monopoly which was granted to the Company owning the Jibuti Salt Works (French Somaliland).

In 1932 and 1933 considerable quantities of salt were exported to Abyssinia and the increased exports by land were due to this cause.

HARGEISA AND BURAMO.

At Hargeisa, duty amounting to Rs.179-10-0 was collected on 575 akaras or bundles of kat (Katha Edulis) imported from Abyssinia, and at Buramo differential duty to the amount of Rs.49-5-0 was paid on goods originally imported by sea. In 1932 the corresponding items were Rs.162-11-0 (868 akaras) and Rs.118-5-0.

Transit Trade.

Customs duty at the rate of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* is levied on merchandise in transit through the Protectorate to and from Abyssinia. The value of goods so imported and exported since 1929 was : —

	Rs.
1929	10,78,879
1930	15,71,792
1931	12,42,200
1932	10,77,347
1933	11,54,051

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The few Somalis who work for their living are employed either as coolies, clerks, and subordinates in Government Departments, or as personal servants. The approximate wages of the various types are :—

Coolies, 8 annas a day (8 hours).

Clerks, Rs.40 to Rs.350 a month (according to grade).

Personal servants, Rs.15 to Rs.45 a month.

The staple food of the Somali in Government or private employ is a daily ration composed of 1 lb. rice, ½ lb. dates, and 2 ounces of ghee, the value of which is usually about 3 annas.

The average cost of living for Europeans is about Rs.5 (7s. 6d.) a head *per diem* for a married couple. For one adult the cost would be relatively higher. The figure given does not include servants' wages, cost of entertaining, or club expenses.

IX.—EDUCATION, WELFARE INSTITUTIONS, AND RECREATION.

Education.

There have been indications during the last few years that the instinctive opposition of the Somalis to secular education for their children is losing strength. There is certainly strong competition among the more enlightened to secure places for their sons in the Gordon College at Khartoum, and petitions have been received for increased facilities for education. It is, however, characteristic of the Somali mentality that the scheme, commenced in 1930 and referred to in the previous report, has been productive, so far, of very meagre results. This scheme required the co-operation of the Somalis, but, although the monetary grants to certain Koranic schools were received with some enthusiam, little effort was made by them to apply the funds seriously for the furtherance of education. During 1933 small grants of money and school materials were made to the Koranic schools at Zeilah, Sheikh, Berbera, Hargeisa, and Burao. The scheme will be given a further trial in 1934.

There are five Somali boys being educated at Gordon College, Khartoum (partly at Government expense and partly at the expense of the relatives of the boys), two of whom are being trained as *Kadis*.

There is a small Government elementary school in Berbera, attended by Somali, Arab, and Indian children.

Welfare Institutions.

There are no welfare institutions in British Somaliland, but a camp is maintained at Berbera for the accommodation and feeding of destitute Somalis. At the end of the year, 246 persons were being maintained in the camp.

Recreation.

There are primitive golf courses at most stations in the Protectorate, and tennis is played at all stations. There are cricket pitches at Berbera, Burao, and Sheikh, which are used when sufficient enthusiasts are gathered together. The greatest activity in this direction occurs on the rare occasions when the Protectorate is visited by one of His Majesty's ships.

The Somali is a very fine natural athlete and takes eagerly to cricket, football, and hockey. A cricket match between two Somali sides provides a most amusing spectacle. There is occasionally a side-stake of a sheep or two, and the greatest keenness results. An unfortunate batsman may have to face a fast bowler (or rather

" thrower ") with whom he may have some small private feud, and the result is sometimes some enthusiastic leg theory or " body-line bowling ". Indeed the side winning the toss invariably bats first in order that they may have the last " throw ". At hockey, as in cricket, the Somali is a great individualist and much training is needed to attain combination. Both games call for strict umpiring. The Police and Somaliland Camel Corps both field very good hockey teams, as also do the towns of Berbera, Burao and Sheikh.

Polo is played by the Camel Corps, and riding is a popular pastime with most Europeans in the country. Wart-hog abound in places, and opportunities for pig-sticking are plentiful, while the big and small game of the country provide good sport.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

There is a weekly service from Aden, which is worked by local contract, the ships connecting at Aden with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's outward and homeward bound ships.

The following is a comparative table of the steam and motor vessels and country craft shipping which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the last five years :—

	1929.		*1930.*		*1931.*		*1932.*		*1933.*	
	Nos.	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*
Entered ...	909	85,498	510	59,327	581	72,673	694	51,923	687	58,306
Cleared ...	926	85,125	504	60,091	543	70,428	660	50,829	637	57,898

Roads.

No railways have been constructed in the Protectorate but there are 1,000½ miles of motorable roads and tracks—divided into trunk roads and district roads, the former under the supervision of the Public Works Department and the latter maintained by the District Officers. These are suitable for general traffic and mechanical transport of medium weight.

The arterial roads of the Protectorate are :—

(1) Berbera—Sheikh—Burao—Ainabo—Adad—El Afweina —Erigavo—Baran.

(2) Berbera—Hargeisa—Nabadid—Buramo.

(3) Burao—Oadweina—Hargeisa.

(4) Zeilah—Loyi (French Frontier).

(5) Zeilah—Arahalas.

The mileage of the various roads is as follows:—

	Miles.
Berbera—Dubar	7
Berbera—Upper Sheikh	50
Sheikh—Burao	38
Burao—Ainabo	81
Ainabo—Adad	52
Adad—El Afweina	47
El Afweina—Erigavo	56
Erigavo—Baran	108
Erigavo—Hais	34
Erigavo—Dalan to Road head	13
Berbera—Hargeisa	106
Hargeisa—Buramo	76
Nabadid—Tug Wajaleh (Abyssinian Frontier) ...	13
Ijareh—Gabileh	7
Berbera—Bulhar	43
Bulhar—Zeilah	102
Zeilah—Loyi (French Frontier)	18
Burao—Hargeisa	119½
Zeilah—Arahalas	30
	1,000½

Motor Transport.

A considerable increase of traffic has been noticed during 1933. The principal routes used by mechanical transport are Berbera—Hargeisa, Hargeisa—Jigjiga, Berbera—Burao, and Berbera—Erigavo.

No improvement has been made by commercial firms in the introduction of British-made cars into the Protectorate. This is due to the lack of agencies and the difficulty in obtaining motor-car spare parts within the Protectorate or in Aden.

Number of licensed private cars in the Protectorate	31
Number of licensed commercial cars in the Protectorate	49
Number if licensed private and commercial cars imported into the Protectorate during the current year:—	
Private cars	6
Commercial cars	13

The following statement shows the countries of origin of the licensed cars in the Protectorate:—

British	13
United States of America and Canada	64
French	3

The number of Government licensed cars is:—

25 cwt. Morris Commercial	6
Morris Oxford (His Majesty's Commissioner's car)	1
Ford box-car	1
Morris six-wheelers (Water Boring Party)	3

The total mileage of the Government motor transport in 1933 was:—

25 cwt. Morris Commercial ... ... 32,988 miles.

The comparative cost per ton-mile by Morris Commercial and camel is:—

	Annas.
Morris Commercial	5·07
Camel	4·7

The above figures do not include fourteen 30 cwt. Ford trucks which form the transport of the Mechanized Company of the Somaliland Camel Corps, nor the mechanical transport used by the British Somaliland-Ethiopia Boundary Commission.

Posts and Telegraphs.

The headquarters of the Posts and Telegraphs Department are at Berbera.

The revenue and expenditure of the Department in respect of the last five years was as follows:—

	1933.	*1932.*	*1931.*	*1930.*	*1929.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	**1,223**	**1,367**	**1,394**	**1,627**	**1,833**
Expenditure ...	**7,067**	**8,136**	**8,847**	**8,889**	**8,519**

The Indian Post Office Act, 1898, was applied to British Somaliland by an order of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs dated 9th March, 1903, and the Protectorate Post Office was transferred from the Indian Administration and constituted under the above authority on the 1st June, 1903, the Protectorate becoming a member of the International Postal Union.

The operations against the Dervishes in 1903 necessitated the establishment of a number of Field Post Offices, the mails being carried by runners and camel riders. This system was maintained till 1925 for the conveyance of mails between the administrative stations in the interior and, in the absence of railways and motor cars, proved generally a cheap, reliable, and comparatively speedy service.

In 1925, a weekly motor car mail service was inaugurated, connecting Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, and Hargeisa. Other places are still served by mail runners.

Direct mails, which are exchanged weekly with London, Aden, and Bombay, are carried by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's mail steamers, regular connexions with

which are made by local contract steamers between Aden and Berbera. Letters to and from the United Kingdom are delivered within from 12 to 14 days.

The following are the denominations of postage stamps on sale in the Protectorate :—

Annas, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12.
Rupees, 1, 2, 3, 5.

The issue and payment of British postal-orders were introduced in January, 1905, and during the same year arrangements were made with the British and Indian Post Offices for a direct exchange of money-orders. A direct Telegraph Money Order Service between the Protectorate and the United Kingdom was introduced in 1916. In 1907, the cash on delivery and insurance of parcels, and the value payable and insurance of parcels, etc., services were introduced with Great Britain and India including Aden, and in the following year the insured letter service to Great Britain was commenced. The insured box service with Great Britain and certain other countries was introduced in 1926. The direct exchange of money-orders with the Kenya and Uganda Administration, which had been introduced in 1910, was suspended in 1921 on account of exchange difficulties. Money-orders to and from the East African Dependencies are exchanged through the intermediary of the Aden Post Office.

The present telegraph administration is the result of expansion and improvement of the military telegraphs used in connection with the operations of the Somaliland Field Force in 1903, with subsequently the addition of wireless telegraph.

A telegraph line now connects Berbera with Sheikh and Burao, which are also served by telephone.

Wireless stations (1½ kilowatt) are now in operation at Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, Buramo, and Zeilah. The Buramo station was destroyed by fire in August, 1933. The reconstruction of this station is under consideration. The Zeilah station was re-opened in November, 1933.

All stations are open to the public for inland and foreign telegraph traffic. The charges on foreign telegrams were increased in February, 1932.

The charges are :—

7 annas per word from any Protectorate station to Aden, plus 10 annas for twenty words and 5 annas for every additional ten words.

2 annas per word to any station within the Protectorate.

Rs.2—4—0* per word to the United Kingdom.

Rs.1—10—0* per word to India.

The Daily Letter Telegram Service was introduced in 1933.

* Half this rate is charged for deferred telegrams.

A service of telegrams conveying Christmas and New Year wishes (greetings telegrams) is admissible between the Protectorate and the United Kingdom during the period from the 14th of December to the 6th of January inclusive.

In April, 1927, a wireless receiving apparatus for the reception of the British Official News Service transmitted from Rugby was installed and has given satisfaction, but owing to shortage of staff it has not been operated during 1933.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a branch of the commercial firm of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, Bombay, accepts deposits from private individuals, cashes cheques drawn on them, and arranges the transfer of funds to the United Kingdom and elsewhere through a branch of the firm at Aden.

The Government Savings Bank continues to gain ground. The rate of interest paid remains at 2½ per cent. and depositors from all classes of the community are taking advantage of the facilities offered.

Currency.

The monetary unit is the Government of India rupee at one shilling and sixpence. Rupees are legal tender for the payment of any amount and Government of India subsidiary coinage is legal tender for the payment of sums not in excess of five rupees. India Government Currency Notes are in circulation.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial standard of weights and measures is in force. The Indian and Somali traders also use certain of the weights and measures in force in British India.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

A general building programme was carried out at all the more important stations in the Protectorate.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There is no Judicial or Legal Department in the Protectorate. The Criminal Courts consist of the Protectorate Court, District Courts of the first class, and District Courts of the second class. The Commissioner and Secretary to the Government are the judges of the Protectorate Court. During the absence of the Commissioner or the Secretary to the Government, certain Protectorate Court Cases may be tried by a District Officer specially empowered under Ordinance No. 3 of 1933. District Courts of the first class are held by District Officers and such other officers as the Commissioner may

so empower. District Courts of the second class are held by those officers so empowered by the Commissioner. The District Courts are empowered by law to try all cases in which natives are parties except for sedition, treason or murder. Cases beyond the jurisdiction of the District Courts, or possessing features which make a trial by the Protectorate Court desirable, are committed by the District Court for trial by the Protectorate Court. In cases where appeals lie from judgments of District Courts, the appeal is to the Protectorate Court of Appeal, which is the final Appellate Court in the Protectorate.

The law of the Protectorate is :—

(*a*) Coded law, i.e., the Indian Penal Code as applied by the Somaliland Administration of Criminal Justice Ordinance (Chapter 4 of the Revised Edition of the Laws), and Local Ordinances.

(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan law.

A stricter legal control is now exercised. In past years, murder and homicide among the natives have been dealt with under tribal customs, but such crimes are now tried by the Criminal Courts.

In addition to Criminal and Civil cases under (*a*) tribal cases are investigated and judged by District Courts under a mixture of tribal custom, Mohammedan law and Indian law. This work forms the great bulk of the District Officers' work as the Somali's inherent love of litigation and refusal to accept any decision except from the highest court of appeal leads to much work of a trivial nature which, if neglected, may result in inter-tribal fighting. The Kadis deal with cases falling entirely under Mohammedan law and Courts of Akil or Elders have been set up to deal with the less important and contentious of tribal cases.

Crime.

The following summary shows the amount of crime in the Protectorate for 1933, as compared with the previous year :—

	1933.	1932.
Convictions for murder	5	7
Persons executed	4	2
Offences against the person	193	484
Offences against property	256	208
Other offences	505	432
Dia cases (inter-tribal killings settled under tribal custom)	7	23

Police.

The Somaliland Civil Police are constituted under the Somaliland Civil Police Ordinance. The force is under the control of the Commissioner and has an establishment of five European officers, four Somali officers, and some 550 other ranks. Rank and file in stations other than Berbera are under the charge of District Officers.

Garrison duties are carried out by the force at Berbera, Erigavo, Zeilah, and Buramo. The police are liable to serve as a military force when called upon by the Commissioner to discharge military duties.

Prisons.

The established prisons in the Protectorate are the Central Prison in Berbera and five District Prisons at Zeilah, Burao, Hargeisa, Buramo, and Erigavo.

The Central Prison accommodates all convicts sentenced to terms of imprisonment exceeding six months in addition to all prisoners convicted in the Berbera District.

The District Prisons accommodate prisoners convicted within Districts who are sentenced to imprisonment for six months or less.

In 1930 the Commandant of Police was appointed Director of Prisons with powers of inspection of all prisons in the Protectorate, and further with power to appoint a European officer, subject to the approval of the Commissioner, to be in responsible charge of the Berbera Prison for the purpose of carrying out the regulations made under the Prison Discipline Ordinance, 1918. The administration of District Prisons remained in the hands of District Officers.

The Central Prison occupies an area of some 6,700 square yards, the whole being surrounded by a stone wall from 11 to 17 feet high. Accommodation is provided for male, female, and juvenile convicts. In addition to the usual wards and cells, the prison is equipped with a dispensary, two sick wards capable of accommodating four lying-in cases, a workshop, and the usual offices. The prison is lighted by electricity.

Committals to the Central Prison during 1933, as compared with the two preceding years, were as follows :—

Year.	*For want of bail or for debt.*	*For penal imprisonment.*
1933	Nil	250
1932	7	395
1931	14	221

The bulk of the labour provided by the prisoners is unskilled, and is used on work of public utility such as road making, quarrying stones, watering trees in Government grounds, etc.

A certain amount of skilled labour is carried out in the Central Prison where long-sentence prisoners are taught to manufacture and repair articles of use to other departments. The manufacture of cane furniture for the Public Works Department is the main industry.

The Central Prison is visited at least once in every two months by the Visiting Justices.

Section 2 of the Administration of Criminal Justice (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931, provides that no young person under the age of 16 years shall be sentenced to imprisonment if the court considers that suitable punishment can be imposed in some other way by placing on probation, or fine or corporal punishment, or committal to a place of detention, or otherwise. Local conditions would not permit of the institution of a regular probation system.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Nine Ordinances were enacted during 1933, of which the following are the more important :—

The Administration of Criminal Justice (Amendment) Ordinance, 1933, (No. 3 of 1933), was passed to enable a specially empowered District Officer to try certain cases as a Judge of the Protectorate Court during the absence of the Commissioner or the Secretary to the Government.

The Collective Punishments Ordinance, 1933, (No. 4 of 1933), provides for the punishment of the inhabitants of townships, villages, tribes, etc., on proof of their being accessory to crimes.

Factory, &c., Legislation.

There is no factory legislation in the Protectorate nor any legislative provision for sickness, old age, etc.

Compensation for accidents is provided for under the Employers Liability Ordinance (Chapter 60 of the Revised Edition of the Laws).

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The finances of the Protectorate have much improved during the year. A marked increase in the revenue will be seen in the following table as the result of improved trade conditions. The demand for skins has increased throughout the year, resulting in a volume of exports of this principal commodity which has not been reached for five years. Importations have correspondingly increased.

No new forms of taxation have been introduced during the year, and preferential tariffs in favour of Empire goods continue in force.

Revenue.

The revenue from all sources amounted to £111,886, an increase of £8,992 as compared with the previous year. The following table shows the principal sources of revenue for the years 1929-33.

	Customs.	*Licences and Taxes.*	*Court Fees and Government Services.*	*Other.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£	£
1929 ...	79,577	12,201	9,306	4,697	105,781
1930 ...	73,290	13,205	9,000	9,809*	105,304
1931 ...	63,347	14,484	11,585	12,477*	101,893
1932 ...	63,740	15,055	14,131	9,968*	102,894
1933 ...	75,318	22,347	10,645	5,576*	111,886

* Includes receipts from the Colonial Development Fund : see later paragraph.

Public Debt.

The net sum due by the Protectorate to the Imperial Treasury on 31st December, 1933, was £220,000. This sum represents the total of loans-in-aid of civil expenditure for the period 1921 to 1933.

The loan-in-aid received in 1933 was £2,750. Loans-in-aid are subject to repayment with interest, as and when the finances of the Protectorate permit. No repayment has yet been made.

In addition to the loan-in-aid, the Protectorate is in receipt of an annual free grant-in-aid of military expenditure. The grant paid in 1933 was £29,000 and the total sum granted since 1st April, 1921, is £660,000.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year amounted to £153,820, and the following table shows the expenditure for the years 1929-33.

	Civil.	*Military.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£
1929	152,614	54,453	207,067
1930	144,443*	54,583	199,027
1931	135,671*	50,091	185,762
1932	109,328*	46,912	156,240
1933	114,059*	39,761	153,820

* Includes expenditure from the Colonial Development Fund grants: see later paragraph.

Civil expenditure exceeded that of the previous year by £4,731. This was due to the organization of famine relief measures which became necessary during the year (£3,000) and the payment of new pensions and gratuities to retiring officers.

A saving of approximately £7,500 was, however, possible upon military expenditure. The expenditure of £39,761 represents, approximately, the normal annual expenditure since the partial mechanization of the Somaliland Camel Corps has been completed. The previous year's expenditure included part of the cost of the mechanization, and also of the relief of the Yao Contingent which is not annually recurrent.

Colonial Development Fund.

The following table shows the receipts and expenditure upon the scheme of water boring since its inception.

	Receipts.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1930	4,300	6,449
1931	9,052	6,878
1932	4,128	3,838
1933	2,556	2,511
	£20,036	£19,676

The total grant amounted to £21,500 and the unspent balance at 31st December, 1933, will enable the scheme to continue three months before closing down.

Financial Position on 31st December, 1933.

The year opened with a surplus balance of revenue over expenditure at 1st January, 1933, of £37,677, and closed with a balance of £27,493, as follows :—

	£	£
Surplus on 1st January, 1933 ...		37,677
Deficit between Civil Revenue and Expenditure	2,543	
Loan-in-Aid	2,750	
Excess		207
		37,884
Deficit between Military Revenue and Expenditure	39,391	
Grant-in-Aid	29,000	
Deficit		10,391
Surplus at 31st December, 1933 ...		£27,493

Customs Duties.

Authority:—The Customs Ordinance (Chapter 44, Revised Edition of the Laws) and amending Ordinances 1930 to 1933. The Alcoholic Liquors Ordinance (Chapter 29, Revised Edition of the Laws), and amending Ordinances 1930 to 1933.

The Customs duties are classified under two heads : (*a*) Specific Duties; (*b*) *Ad Valorem* Duties.

The value at which *ad valorem* duty is assessed is : (*a*) in accordance with the Tariff which is approved yearly on 1st April by His Excellency the Commissioner and which is open for inspection at each Customs House: (*b*) where no provision is made in the Tariff (i) in the case of imports, the wholesale cash price less trade discount, for which goods of the like kind and quality are sold or are capable of being sold, at the time and place of importation, without any abatement or deduction except the amount of the duties payable on the importation thereof; and (ii) in the case of exports, the prevailing market price at the port of exportation as ascertained monthly by the Treasurer and Chief of Customs or as manifested on exporters' invoices.

Tariff.

Imports.

Specific Duties :—

	Ordinary Rate.	*Preferential Rate.*
	Rs. as. ps.	Rs. as. ps.
Alcoholic Liquors, per gallon ...	13 3 0	12 0 0
Rice, per 168 lb.	2 12 0	2 8 0
Sugar, per 28 lb.	0 14 0	0 12 0
Dates, per 168 lb.	1 12 0	—
Grey Sheeting, per 750 yds. ...	77 0 0	50 0 0
White Long Cloth, per 40 yds. ...	5 8 0	4 0 0
Matches per standard box ...	0 0 4	0 0 3
Matches per large box ...	0 0 8	0 0 6
Currants, Greek, per cwt. ...	1 0 0	—

Ad Valorem Duties :—

Rice (certain varieties), building materials, mats, matting and native pottery, naphthaline, fresh, dried and preserved fruit and vegetables, preserved provisions and articles of European attire ...	20 per cent.	10 per cent.
Live stock and all other goods, with certain exceptions	25 per cent.	15 per cent.

Exports.

Live stock and local produce with certain exceptions	10 per cent.

The preferential rates of duty are extended to articles produced or manufactured in and consigned from the British Empire.

The following are the customs ports and frontier customs stations at which the above import and export duties are collected :—

Customs Ports :—Berbera, Zeilah, Las Khoreh, Heis, and Elayu.

Frontier Customs Stations :—Zeilah, Elayu, Hargeisa, and Buramo (goods-in-transit only).

Subject to certain exceptions, a rebate of half of the Protectorate rates is allowed on all goods, having their origin within the Administrative District of Zeilah, exported from Zeilah, and two-thirds on all goods imported at Zeilah for consumption within the administrative district of Zeilah.

Goods in Transit.

(*a*) *Transit duty.*—On all goods imported in transit to and from Abyssinia, 1 per cent. *ad valorem.*

(*b*) *Valuation.*—The value of goods imported in transit for purposes of transit duty is the wholesale cash price, less trade discount, for which goods of the like kind are sold or are capable of being sold at the time and place of importation without any abatement or deduction except the amount of the duties payable on the importation thereof.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

All land in the Protectorate except in proclaimed townships may be said to be vested in the Somali tribe. Outside the townships no individual title to land is recognized (except in the case of a few small religious settlements) nor is any sectional title to any particular area recognized as giving any particular section of the tribe an exclusive right to that area. It is the habit of certain sections always to graze in the same area and this in practice gives them a prescriptive title to that area, but theoretically and legally individuals of other sections have the right to enter such areas and use the grazing as necessity dictates. In the western part of the Protectorate, where large areas of ground are under cultivation, the tribal title has been restricted to the extent that the right of individual cultivators to the enjoyment of the area cultivated is recognized, but only so long as effective cultivation is continued.

Government has taken powers to expropriate land for public purposes, on payment of compensation for damage done thereby to an individual or section. Land so expropriated becomes Crown Land.

The township areas are divided into two classes:—

(*a*) Old-established towns on the coast, such as Berbera and Zeilah; and

(*b*) Recently-established towns in the interior.

In class (*a*), the matter has been allowed to remain undefined. In practice, disputes as to ownership seldom arise.

In class (*b*), Government has introduced legislation to give to individuals a valid title to ground. All townships are of such recent growth that, except in five small plots in Hargeisa, no claim to freehold has been established, and leases or temporary occupation licences have been given to such of the present occupiers as wish to secure a legal title to their land.

Rainfall.

The big rains unfortunately were far below the average, and grazing was poor all over the Protectorate. As a result there was considerable mortality in stock and destitution was acute

amongst the natives, especially in the Erigavo District, where in July a camp for the relief of destitutes was opened. At the end of the year there were in the camp 349 men, 1,337 women, and 1,267 children. One hundred of the men who were fit for work were employed on road-making, receiving 4 annas a day in addition to free rations. Reports indicate that destitution was prevalent in Italian Somaliland.

Political Situation.

Comparative peace has reigned in all districts with the exception of Burao. The destruction of pillars erected by the British Somaliland-Ethiopia Boundary Commission has continued, though not to the extent reported on page 28 of the annual report for 1932.

Burao District.—Considerable unrest was displayed amongst certain of the tribes in the Burao District in the first half of the year, the result of the re-opening of tribal feuds. By August much of the unrest had died down, but the last six months of the year were marked by intense dacoit activity from across the border by outlaws from the Protectorate, who killed several men and plundered much stock from our tribes.

Hargeisa District.—Comparative peace reigned, the outstanding incidents being a raid on our tribes by the Ogaden and a fight between one of the tribes of this district and one of the Burao tribes.

The Ethiopian Government has paid only 10,000 dollars towards the 53,012 dollars due under the Ogaden-Ishaak Claims Conference 1932. Under the terms of the agreement, the whole sum was due to be paid by the 1st August, 1933, and the non-payment has rendered it a matter of some difficulty to restrain our tribes from indulging in counter-looting against the Ogaden.

Erigavo District.—No serious tribal incidents have occurred, but the failure of the rains caused much destitution in this district.

Zeilah District.—Another peaceful year is reported, with little crime and no inter-tribal raids within the district.

British Somaliland-Ethiopia Boundary Commission.—During the year, the remainder of the boundary alignment has been satisfactorily agreed and demarcated, except for a short length of about two miles in the Sau Mountains and the portion from Somadu northwards to the Anglo-Franco-Ethiopian trijunction point.

An attempt to settle this trijunction point in March was unsuccessful, as the French representatives were not ready. Tripartite meetings were started on 1st November, and discussions were still in progress at the end of the year.

By the end of the year, the trigonometrical and topographical work of the British Section had nearly been completed; but the trigonometrical work of the Ethiopian Section was less advanced.

The triangulation extends from approximately the line Jifu Meider-Jifa Uri, passing along the frontier westwards and northwards to the coast, where it is tied to the Jibuti (French Somaliland) system in order to obtain a satisfactory height control.

In the course of this work, the British Section have made a reconnaissance map on the 1/125,000 scale covering a large area of the western part of the Protectorate.

Air photography of the Anglo-Ethiopian boundary was completed by March, having been greatly delayed by unfavourable weather conditions; and the Air Survey Flight was then withdrawn to Aden.

The Anglo-French boundary point on the coast was fixed and marked at Loyi Ada in conjunction with French representatives; and arrangements have been made for the execution early in 1934 of the survey operations necessary to enable a reliable topographical map of the Anglo-French frontier zone to be made from air photographs taken by the Royal Air Force in the first half of 1933.

British-Italian Sports Meeting.

In June a most successful and enjoyable sports meeting was held at Burao between the officers of British and Italian Somaliland. The Italian contingent travelled by car from Mogadiscio to Burao and included the Colonial Secretary-General and other prominent civil and military officers. In the tennis matches, honours were divided—the Italians winning both the doubles and ourselves both the singles. The football match (association) aroused considerable interest, and after a most keenly contested game, watched by a large crowd, the Italians won 2—0. The whole visit was an unqualified success and the Governor of Italian Somaliland suggested that football and tennis teams from British Somaliland should pay a return visit to Mogadiscio. Shortage of staff prevented our sending a football team, but arrangements were made to send a tennis team to Mogadiscio in January, 1934. The results are to hand at the time of writing (February, 1934). The Italians won all matches—singles and doubles.

Appendix

List of Publications relating to British Somaliland

	£ s. d.	*To be purchased from*
Laws of the Somaliland Protectorate—Revised Edition	1 0 0	The Treasurer, Berbera, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Notices, Proclamations, Regulations and Rules in force on the 30th June, 1930	1 0 0	The Treasurer, Berbera, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Supplement to the Laws of the Somaliland Protectorate, 1930–32	1 0 0	The Treasurer, Berbera, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Report on the Somaliland Agricultural and Geological Department for 1927 and 1928 ...	0 5 0	Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Somaliland Annual Geological Report, 1929 ...	0 2 0	Crown Agents for the Colonies.
The Geology of British Somaliland, by W. A. Macfadyen, M.C., M.A., Ph.D. (Cantab.), F.G.S., F.R.G.S., M.Inst.P.T. (Part I of the Geology and Palæontology of British Somaliland) ...	0 12 6	Crown Agents for the Colonies or through any Bookseller.

British Somaliland (Drake-Brockman), London, 1917.

Somaliland (Hamilton), London, 1911.

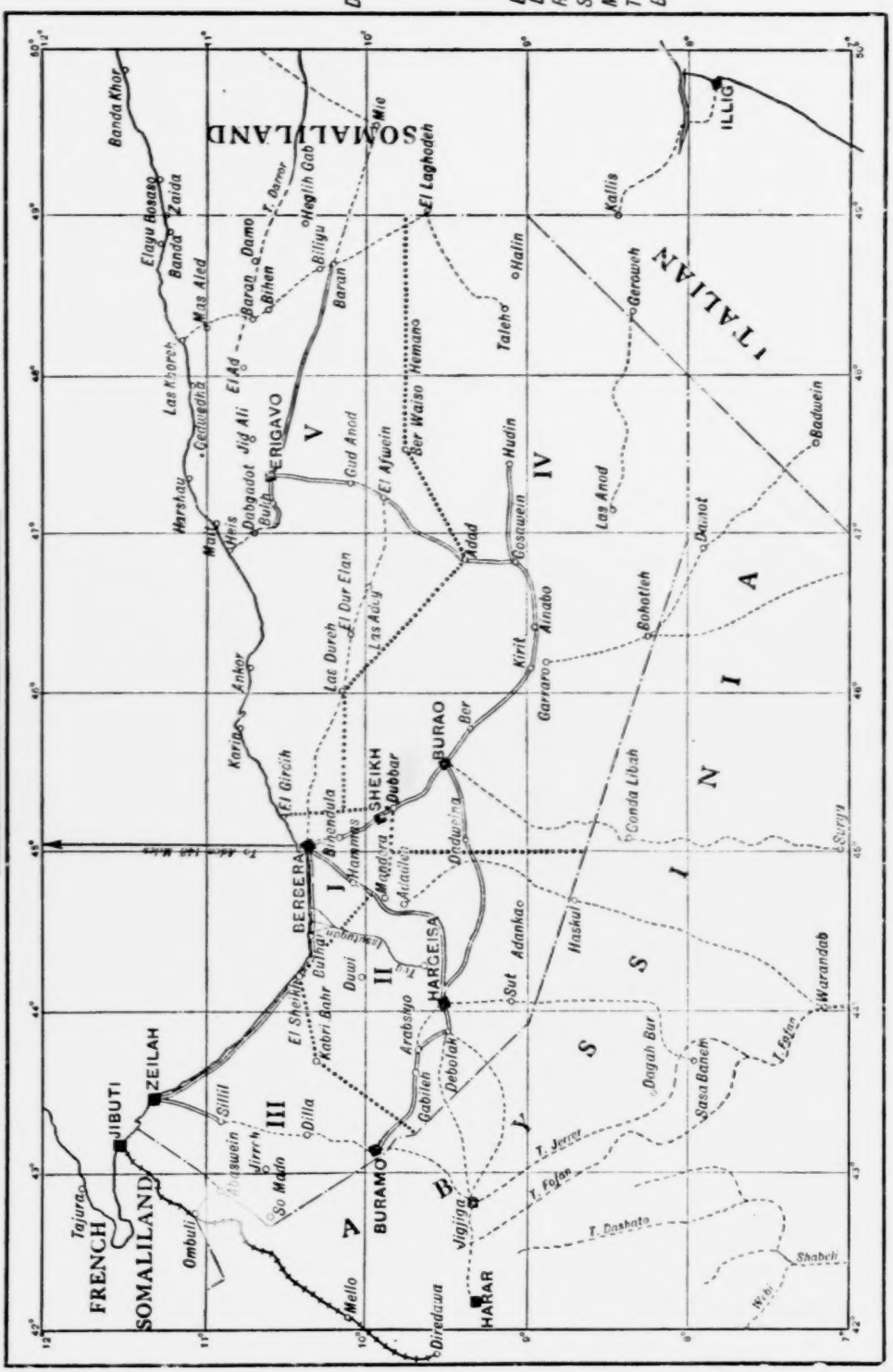
The Mad Mullah of Somaliland (Jardine), London, 1923.

Sun, Sand and Somals (Rayne), London, 1921.

Seventeen Trips in Somaliland (Swayne), London.

Under the Flag and Somali Coast Stories (Walsh), London.

BRITISH SOMALILAND.



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Wool Quality: A Study of the Influence of various contributory factors, their significance and the technique of their measurement. Cloth. £1 1*s*. (£1 1*s*. 9*d*.).

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF SOMALILAND FOR 1934

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Protectorate of British Somaliland has for its northern boundary about 450 miles of coast-line on the Gulf of Aden, and extends from Loyi Ada (Hadu), longitude 43° 15′ East, as far as the forty-ninth degree of East longitude, close to the town of Banda Ziada.

The Protectorate marches with Italian Somaliland from Banda Ziada to a point in latitude 8° North; thence with Ethiopia to near Jalelo, and with French Somaliland from near Jalelo to Loyi Ada (Hadu) on the coast.

The area of the Protectorate is about 68,000 square miles. Topographically it consists of the following four main features, extending southwards from the coast-line:—

(*a*) An almost bare, gently rising, alluvial coastal plain ranging in breadth from about half a mile in the east to about 60 miles in the west; this is succeeded by

(*b*) a maritime plain, with a similar slope, on which are numerous broken ridges of limestone and hills of igneous rock, and which varies in breadth from a mile or two in the east and west to about 30 miles in the middle. The native name for both the coastal and maritime plains is *Guban*.

(*c*) A vertical escarpment of limestone about 2,000 feet thick, resting on igneous rocks which, at the bottom of the scarp, form foothills and ridges up to 3,500 feet in height. The escarpment (native name *Golis*) trends roughly east and west, and is pronounced from the eastern boundary to a little west of the middle line of the Protectorate. Further west, it is largely replaced by ridges of igneous rock.

(*d*) From the top of the scarp, a long, wide, and almost featureless plateau (native name *Ogo*) slopes gently downwards to the south-east into the Haud, a belt of thorn wilderness and pasturages, extending into Ethiopian and Italian territory. Each of these four main features has its characteristic vegetation, dependent on climate and rainfall.

The maritime plain, with a very hot climate and very small rainfall, supports in places frankincense and myrrh trees. The ridges and foothills near the base of the escarpment, with a cooler climate and larger rainfall, are, especially in the eastern half of the country, partly covered with trees of *Acacia Verek*. On the top of the escarpment, at altitudes between 4,500 and 6,000 feet, a species of box (*Buxus Hildebrandtii*) is very common, especially in the Erigavo District. Some thirty miles west of Sheikh, this species flourishes on granitic hills at altitudes down to 3,500 feet.

At altitudes above 6,000 feet on top of the escarpment are patches of cedar (*Juniperus Procera*). In one locality, north-west of Erigavo, where the scarp reaches a height of 7,500 feet, these trees form a small forest, and they have also been found at intervals almost up to the south-western boundary.

On the interior plateau, the average rainfall ranges from about 20 inches a year in the west to about 10 inches in the east and 8 inches in the south and south-east. The plateau consists in part of an open savannah of thorny acacias, in part of grass-covered plains; and though, over the greater part of it, the rainfall is low and the grazing is on the whole somewhat indifferent, this part of the Protectorate supports the bulk of the stock—camels, sheep, goats and cattle—on which most of the native population subsist.

On parts of the maritime plain, among the foothills of the escarpment, and, especially in the west, on several flats between the ridges to the north of the main escarpment, are large and small areas of *Sanscvieria Ehrenbergii* (*Hig*), a plant which is somewhat similar to sisal, and of which the fibre is considered to be of some commercial value.

Owing to the scanty water supply, the camel is the animal most suited to the country, but cattle thrive, especially in the hills, and sheep and goats do excellently so long as the rainfall is up to the average.

The chief ports are Berbera, Zeilah, and Las Khoreh.

There are no hotels of any sort in the Protectorate. There are furnished rest-houses at Berbera, Burao, and Hargeisa, but only that at Berbera provides messing facilities. There are no European private residents in British Somaliland, and it is necessary for all intending visitors to obtain permission from the Secretary to the Government to enter the Protectorate. It is essential for such visitors to arrive completely self-contained, unless they have made arrangements privately for accommodation with officers of the Protectorate.

Climate.

Somaliland has a small but fairly regular rainfall. The dry season lasts from December to March, during which period there is practically no rain. The big rains fall during April and May and they are succeeded by the south-west monsoon (called locally the *kharif*), which blows from June till October—the hottest period of the year. The *kharif* is very trying to Europeans, particularly on the coast, where the heat and dust make concentrated work difficult.

On the higher ground in the interior the heat is at no time intolerable, and the nights are generally cool.

From November to March the climate is quite pleasant, the heat on the coast being tempered by the sea breeze (north-east monsoon).

The rainfall in the country is very local, and consequently there is often considerable variation in local conditions as to grazing, rainpools, etc.

The meteorological statistics are as follows:—

Station.	*Total Rainfall.*	*Mean Maximum.*	*Mean Minimum.*	*Absolute Maximum.*	*Absolute Minimum.*	*Total Rainfall for previous four years.*			
	1934.					*1933.*	*1932.*	*1931.*	*1930.*
	Inches	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Berbera ...	1·70	91·9	77·5	109·0	61·0	0·86	2·20	1·43	4·63
Sheikh ...	18·17	78·3	45·8	87·0	30·0	17·07	18·79	19·43	27·02
Burao ...	5·67	84·8	62·0	93·0	47·0	5·58	5·58	9·79	6·50
Hargeisa ...	15·19	84·6	55·6	94·0	31·0	12·42	15·28	25·35	20·67
Zeilah ...	5·46	90·1	76·0	108·0	62·0	2·05	8·12	0·66	8·83
Borama ...	18·37	82·5	58·3	92·0	36·0	15·90	25·99	20·24	22·55
Erigavo ...	12·53	76·0	50·0	83·0	30·0	9·81	11·07	10·53	12·84

N.B.—Highest velocity of wind recorded in Berbera during the year 1934 was 56 miles per hour on several days in June.

History.

Prior to 1884 the administration of the Somali Coast had been in the hands of the Egyptian Government. Upon its collapse in 1884, a Protectorate was proclaimed by Great Britain, and the boundaries were settled by agreements with France, Italy, and Ethiopia. Until 1898 the Protectorate was administered by the Resident at Aden as a Dependency of the Government of India. In that year it was transferred to the charge of the Foreign Office, and on 1st April, 1905, to the Colonial Office.

From 1901 to 1920 the history of the Protectorate is largely a history of campaigns against Mohammed bin Abdulla Hassan, the "Mad Mullah." In 1901, 1902, and 1903, expeditions were sent against the Mullah, and in January, 1904, a crushing defeat was inflicted on him at Jidballeh. He then retired into Italian territory and claimed Italian protection. An agreement was made between him and the Italian Government, but the Mullah soon disregarded this agreement and commenced further aggressive actions against the tribes under British protection.

In 1908, a policy of coastal concentration was adopted. In March, 1910, all troops were withdrawn from the country, except for small garrisons at the three ports of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeilah. This policy did not prove a success, and in 1912-13 the strict coastal concentration was abandoned and administration in the interior was gradually resumed. From 1914 desultory fighting continued until 1920, when a combined attack with land and air forces scattered the Mullah and his followers, and captured all his forts and possessions. The Mullah fled into Ethiopia, where he died in February, 1921.

In recent years, conditions have been peaceful with the exception of inter-tribal cattle raids both in the Protectorate and outside its borders. As indulgence in these is the hereditary pastime of all Somalis, they need not be regarded very seriously, as they can be checked, and are being checked, by extension of administration.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Protectorate is administered by the Commissioner and, in his absence, by the Secretary to the Government. There is neither Executive nor Legislative Council. The powers of the Commissioner are defined in the Somaliland Orders in Council, 1929 and 1932.

Departments of Government.

The Commissioner's office and Secretariat are at Sheikh, and the headquarters of the Treasury and Customs, Police and Prisons, Medical, Posts and Telegraphs, and Public Works Departments are at Berbera. The Veterinary and Agricultural Officer is stationed at Burao. The Geological Department was abolished in 1934.

District Administration.

For administrative purposes the Protectorate has been divided into five districts each of which is in charge of a District Officer. The five districts are Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, and Zeilah. The headquarters of the Zeilah District is at Borama.

Military Garrison.

The Military Garrison of the Protectorate consists of the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, with headquarters at Burao and a detachment at Hargeisa.

Two aeroplanes of the Aden Squadron, Royal Air Force, are stationed in Somaliland. Aerodromes or landing grounds are maintained at Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, Hargeisa, Borama, Zeilah, Erigavo, Hudin, Las Anod, Baran, Halin, Bihen Eik and Bohotle.

III.—POPULATION.

The Somali population is estimated at 344,700. According to the non-native census taken in April, 1931, the non-native population was 2,683, including 68 Europeans, 520 Indians, 1,614 Arabs, 100 Ethiopians, and 258 Nyasaland natives of the Somaliland Camel Corps.

IV.—HEALTH.

The staff of the Medical Department of the Protectorate consists of a Senior Medical Officer, three Medical Officers, three Assistant Surgeons, three Sub-Assistant Surgeons, two clerks, and subordinate staff.

Well-equipped hospitals are established at Berbera, Burao, Borama, Erigavo, and Hargeisa, and smaller ones at Zeilah and Sheikh, as well a dispensary at Las Khoreh.

49,034 out-patients and 3,257 in-patients were treated, as compared with 41,563 and 2,430 respectively in the previous year. The increase in the number of patients can be accounted for by the much higher incidence of smallpox, chickenpox, measles, relapsing fever, and malaria.

The number of in-patients who avail themselves of the medical facilities at Burao continues to show an increase, and a further extension of the hospital has been found necessary.

Ninety-three cases of smallpox occurred in the Protectorate. There were two deaths.

There were thirteen patients remaining in the Berbera Lunatic Asylum on 1st January, 1934, and eight were admitted during the year; eight were discharged as cured; one died, and twelve remained on the 31st December. The Asylum consists of a hollow square formed of cells and offices surrounding an open space, the centre of which is covered by a roof on pillars. All the rooms are ten feet high, and there are twenty rooms and adequate offices.

There is now ample accommodation in the Leprosy Asylum for all the known lepers of the Protectorate. Twenty-two remained on 1st January, 1934; ten were admitted; one died, two were discharged cured, and five improved and were sent back to their tribes.

The camp in the Erigavo District, established in the latter months of 1933 for the relief of destitution caused by the severe drought, had to be kept open in 1934 until the fall of good rains enabled most of the inmates to return to their tribes. The numbers in this camp were about 3,000, mostly women and children, amongst whom the death rate was heavy during a winter outbreak of influenza. This camp was closed in April, but one in Berbera in which the numbers rose to 6,000 remained open throughout the year. On the 31st December there were 478 persons in the Berbera camp.

In June, the first known cases of rabies in this Protectorate were reported at Borama near the frontier of Ethiopia, a country where it is known to have been endemic for years. An animal, never identified, ran amok in the town one dark night, and bit seven people, of whom three subsequently died with symptoms of rabies. Three months later, a jackal near Borama attacked a native girl and savaged her badly about the face. She also died in spite of having undergone a course of anti-rabic vaccine treatment.

V.—HOUSING.

The normal Somali dwelling is the *gurgi*, a dome-shaped hut constructed of a pliable stick framework and covered with mats. The *gurgi* is movable and can be readily dismantled and packed on camels when a change of ground for any reason becomes necessary.

In the towns the trading Somali and the poorer class of Indian may sometimes be found living in an *arish* (wattle and daub hut).

Government officers are housed in well-built stone and plaster houses. Berbera is the only town with a pipe-borne water supply. In other stations, the sanitary arrangements are of a primitive, though satisfactory, character.

The indiscriminate setting up of *gurgis* and other temporary dwellings within townships is not permitted, and is controlled by the District Officers, who may set aside areas in which such temporary habitations may be installed.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

The Agricultural and Geological Department was abolished in 1934, and agriculture in future will be under the general supervision of the Veterinary and Agricultural Officer. Agriculture is chiefly confined to the western half of the Protectorate, viz., the

Hargeisa and Borama Districts, in a strip of country about eighty miles long and ranging in width from two to fifteen miles, with an average rainfall of about seventeen inches. Latterly it has been extending in parts of the plateau country in the centre of the Protectorate at Adadleh, and between Hahi and Oadweina, under a crude native irrigation scheme which appears to be capable of development.

There are no plantations owned or managed by Europeans in the country, and in consequence all efforts at improving native agriculture have to be carried out by the Government. The main crops produced are sorghum and maize, but gram, barley, and wheat (an Ethiopian variety) are also grown.

Once again the Protectorate enjoyed complete immunity from the visits of locusts.

Water-boring.

Drilling operations were closed down early in the year, but a fresh grant from the Colonial Development Fund was sanctioned in August, and drilling over a wide area is to be resumed early in 1935.

Veterinary.

Rinderpest.—A serious outbreak occurred in the Borama area early in the year, and a loss of about 9,000 head of cattle was reported. Heavy losses also occurred as the result of an outbreak on the Ethiopian frontier in the Hargeisa District. By the end of the year the Hargeisa District was reported to be clear of rinderpest.

Pleuro-pneumonia-contagiosa.—A fresh outbreak occurred in the Zeilah District. Quarantine measures were instituted, and a Native Stock Inspector was placed in charge.

African Horse-sickness.—Only two cases were reported—both in the Borama area.

Surra in camels.—The Naganol treatment continues to meet with great success, and the demand from natives for injections for their stock is growing.

Rabies.—An outbreak occurred at Borama in June (see Chapter IV—Health).

Fisheries.

Although tropical fish of every variety, such as shark, great and small rays, barracuda and other sphyraenae, durab or wolf-herring, dolphins, sea perches, sword-fish, rock cod, different species of sardinella, tunny, mullets, horse-mackerel, king-fish, crawfish, and bêche-de-mer (trepang) are abundant, yet the few natives engaged in the fishery industry use only a handline with a single hook for trolling and bottom fishing and a light casting net to obtain bait.

There is no co-operation between them and they sail out in their canoes to the fishing grounds only when dire necessity compels them. If one is exceptionally successful and realizes a substantial profit, he ceases to labour for as many days as it would have taken him to accumulate this sum from his average daily earnings. Consequently, the local supply of fish on sale in the towns is considerably less than the actual demand. A few passing shark-fishing dhows, manned by Arabs, Sudanese, and Dankalis, occasionally stop at the ports to net sharks in the harbour and in the deep sea. After completing the operation of salting the fins for the Chinese market and the flesh for the consumption of their countrymen, and extracting the "*seefa*" or liver oil which is used for caulking native craft, they resume their voyage.

Since foreign dhows have been excluded from fishing within the French and Italian territorial waters, a number of native smacks have been withdrawn from the mother-of-pearl and trochee shell fisheries. Within the limit to which the divers are now restricted, they cannot collect a sufficient quantity to realize a profit. Although the gamble of obtaining a valuable gem after opening thousands of mother-of-pearl shells always will be an incentive to engage in the industry, yet it is from the sale of the empty shells that the divers derive their maintenance.

During the year a Fisheries Ordinance (No. 5 of 1934) was enacted to regulate the activities of visiting foreign fishermen in the territorial waters of the Protectorate. Licences to fish or to dive for pearls are now obligatory upon all fishermen other than natives of British Somaliland or persons ordinarily resident therein, and the rates are Rs.50 and Rs.100 per annum for the respective licences.

VII.—COMMERCE.

Customs.

The value of the Protectorate trade during the year 1934 was Rs.54,13,248 compared with Rs.57,42,837 in 1933. The following comparative table shows the value of imports and exports excluding specie for the last five years:—

Year.	*Imports.* Rs.	*Exports.* Rs.	*Total.* Rs.
1930 ...	49,27,166	33,47,095	82,74,261
1931 ...	41,35,139	26,74,352	68,09,491
1932 ...	40,77,827	21,42,030	62,19,857
1933 ...	37,88,671*	19,54,166*	57,42,837*
1934 ...	35,80,851*	18,32,397*	54,13,248*

* Exclusive of goods in transit previously included.

Imports.

The import trade during 1934, excluding specie to the value of Rs.6,493, was distributed in the following proportions between the Protectorate ports :—

Port.	*Amount.*	*Percentage.*				
		1930.	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*
	Rs.					
Berbera ...	26,92,857	81·1	79·4	77·5	78·0	75·2
Bulhar* ...	—	1·5	·5	—	—	—
Zeilah... ...	6,34,008	13·4	15·2	12·6	16·4	17·7
Makhir Coast...	2,53,986	4·0	4·9	9·9	5·6	7·1

* Bulhar was closed as a Customs port in May, 1931.

The following were the commodities principally comprising the import trade :—

Article.	*Country of Origin.*	*Unit.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.**	*1934.**
Grey Sheeting.	United States of America.	Yd.	18,150	12,750	—	—	—
	China.	,,	—	27,450	—	—	—
	U.S.S.R.	,,	—	—	—	7,200	8,050
	Japan.	,,	2,720,773	2,312,752	1,939,687	694,263	545,426
	United Kingdom.	,,	—	—	—	—	1,830
Long Cloth	United Kingdom.	,,	1,430,910	1,060,017	930,468	618,928	637,178
	Japan.	,,	—	109,800	297,086	42,370	65,322
Dates ...	Persian Gulf.	Cwt.	45,4[illegible]5	65,276	81,588	43,125	42,866
Rice ...	India.	,,	127,944	112,034	100,182	160,215	166,550
Sugar ...	United Kingdom.	,,	—	—	—	61,848	55,346
	Java.	,,	21,127	50,334	54,267	196	646
	Italy.	,,	—	—	—	—	4,550

* Exclusive of goods in transit previously included.

A system of import quotas for textile goods other than those of British manufacture was introduced in May, 1934. The commodity principally affected has been grey sheeting, of which the restricted quantities for the period May to December, were 316,500 yards of Japanese and 11,700 of any other foreign manufacture.

Exports.

The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.1,13,886, amounted to Rs.18,32,397 and was distributed in the following proportions between the Protectorate ports :—

Port.	*Amount.*	*Percentage.*				
		1930.	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*
	Rs.					
Berbera ...	11,52,943	72·0	72·1	70·3	68·3	62·9
Bulhar* ...	—	·1	·1	—	—	—
Zeilah	5,80,710	22·3	20·1	21·6	25·4	31·7
Makhir Coast...	98,744	5·6	7·7	8·1	6·3	5·4

* Bulhar was closed as a Customs port in May, 1931.

The following were the main indigenous products shipped from the Protectorate :—

Article.	*Country of destination.*	*Unit.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.**	*1934.**
Bullocks...	Aden and Suez	Nos.	2,102	857	756	1,086	884
Sheep and Goats.	Aden and Mukalla	„	76,127	104,682	136.497	120,189	95,127
Skins (sheep and goats).	Europe and America via Aden.	„	810,131	997,221	1,079,796	1,715,750	1,848,953
Hides ...	Aden ...	Cwt.	71	37	—	—	30
Gums and Resins.	Europe and India via Aden.	„	13,261	11,880	16,669	8,467	7,329
Ghee ...	Aden ...	„	5,745	7,247	5,913	1,643	534

* Exclusive of goods in transit previously included.

Land Customs.

Zeilah.

The statistics of the Land Customs station for the years 1930-1934 are as under :—

Imports.

Item.	*Unit.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*
Millet (Sorghum) ...	Cwt. ...	1	25	—	—	—
Wheat	„ ...	—	7	—	—	—

EXPORTS.

Item.	*Unit.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*
Horses	Nos. ...	3	4	13	28	31
Camels	,, ...	198	182	297	455	616
Donkeys	,, ...	15	4	4	20	5
Cattle...	,, ...	1,807	467	275	569	371
Sheep and Goats ...	,, ...	9,853	17,914	20,737	20,600	13,197
Salt	Cwt. ...	8,356	1,909	39,219	53,765	62,822

Salt.—The following table shows the working of the Zeilah salt industry for the period from 1930 to 1934 :—

Year.	*Quantity Exported.* *By land.* *Cwt.*	*By sea.* *Cwt.*	*Total.* *Cwt.*
1930	8,356	12,282	20,638
1931	1,909	398	2,307
1932	39,219	845	40,064
1933	53,765	318	54,083
1934	62,822	394	63,216

The marked decrease for 1931 in salt exported by sea was due to the monopoly which was granted to the Company owning the Jibuti Salt Works (French Somaliland).

In 1932, 1933, and 1934 considerable quantities of salt were exported to Ethiopia and the increased exports by land were due to this cause.

HARGEISA AND BORAMA.

At Hargeisa, duty amounting to Rs. 276-8-0 was collected on 878½ akaras or bundles of kat (*Katha Edulis*) imported from Ethiopia, and at Borama differential duty to the amount of Rs.298-8-0 was paid on goods originally imported at Zeilah by sea. In 1933 the corresponding items were Rs.179-10-0 (575 akaras) and Rs.49-5-0.

Transit Trade.

Customs duty at the rate of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* is levied on merchandise in transit through the Protectorate to and from Ethiopia. The value of goods so imported and exported since 1930 was :—

	Rs.
1930	15,71,792
1931	12,42,200
1932	10,77,347
1933	11,54,051
1934	13,73,287

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The few Somalis who work for their living are employed either as coolies, clerks, and subordinates in Government Departments, or as personal servants. The approximate wages of the various types are :—

Coolies, 8 annas a day (8 hours).
Clerks, Rs.40 to Rs.350 a month (according to grade).
Personal servants, Rs.15 to Rs.45 a month.

The staple food of the Somali in Government or private employ is a daily ration composed of 1 lb. rice, ½ lb. dates, and 2 ounces of ghee, the value of which is usually about 3 annas.

The average cost of living for Europeans is about Rs.5 (7s. 6d.) a head *per diem* for a married couple. For one adult the cost would be relatively higher. The figure given does not include servants' wages, cost of entertaining, or club expenses.

IX.—EDUCATION, WELFARE INSTITUTIONS, AND RECREATION.

Education.

There have been indications during the last few years that the instinctive opposition of the Somalis to secular education for their children is losing strength. There is certainly strong competition among the more enlightened to secure places for their sons in the Gordon College at Khartoum, and petitions have been received for increased facilities for education. It is, however, characteristic of the Somali mentality that the scheme, commenced in 1930 and referred to in the previous report, has been productive, so far, of very meagre results. This scheme required the co-operation of the Somalis, but, although the monetary grants to certain Koranic schools were received with some enthusiam, little effort was made by them to apply the funds seriously for the furtherance of education. During 1934 small grants of money and school materials were made to the Koranic schools at Zeilah, Berbera, Borama, Hargeisa, and Burao.

There are five Somali boys being educated at Gordon College, Khartoum (partly at Government expense and partly at the expense of the relatives of the boys), two of whom are being trained as Kadis.

There is a small Government elementary school in Berbera, attended by Somali, Arab, and Indian children.

Welfare Institutions.

There are no welfare institutions in British Somaliland, but a camp is maintained at Berbera for the accommodation and feeding of destitute Somalis. At the end of the year, 478 persons were being maintained in the camp.

Recreation.

There are primitive golf courses at most stations in the Protectorate, and tennis is played at all stations. There are cricket pitches at Berbera, Burao, and Sheikh, which are used when sufficient enthusiasts are gathered together. The greatest activity in this direction occurs on the occasions when the Protectorate is visited by one of His Majesty's ships.

The Somali is a very fine natural athlete and takes eagerly to cricket, football, and hockey. At hockey, as in cricket, the Somali is a great individualist and much training is needed to attain combination. Both games call for strict umpiring. The Police and Somaliland Camel Corps both field very good hockey teams, as also do the towns of Berbera, Burao, and Sheikh.

Polo is played by the Camel Corps, and riding is a popular pastime with most Europeans in the country. Wart-hog abound in places, and opportunities for pig-sticking are plentiful, while the big and small game of the country provide good sport.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

There is a weekly service from Aden, which is worked by local contract, the ships connecting at Aden with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's outward and homeward bound ships.

The following is a comparative table of the steam and motor vessels and country craft shipping which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the last five years:—

	1930.		*1931.*		*1932.*		*1933.*		*1934.*	
	Nos.	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*
Entered ...	510	59,327	581	72,673	694	51,923	687	58,306	772	69,530
Cleared ...	504	60,091	543	70,428	660	51,153	637	57,898	726	68,961

Roads.

No railways have been constructed in the Protectorate but there are 1,000½ miles of motorable roads and tracks—divided into trunk roads and district roads, the former under the supervision of the Public Works Department and the latter maintained by the District Officers. These are suitable for general traffic and mechanical transport of medium weight.

The arterial roads of the Protectorate are:—

(1) Berbera—Sheikh—Burao—Ainabo—Adad—El Afweina—Erigavo—Baran.

(2) Berbera—Hargeisa—Nabadid—Borama.

(3) Burao—Oadweina—Hargeisa.

(4) Zeilah—Loyi (French Frontier).

(5) Zeilah—Arahalas.

The mileage of the various roads is as follows :—

	Miles.
Berbera—Dubar	7
Berbera—Upper Sheikh	50
Sheikh—Burao	38
Burao—Ainabo	81
Ainabo—Adad	52
Adad—El Afweina	47
El Afweina—Erigavo	56
Erigavo—Baran	108
Erigavo—Hais	34
Erigavo—Dalan to Road head	13
Berbera—Hargeisa	106
Hargeisa—Borama	76
Nabadid—Tug Wajale (Ethiopian Frontier) ...	13
Ijareh—Gabileh	7
Berbera—Bulhar	43
Bulhar—Zeilah	102
Zeilah—Loyi (French Frontier)	18
Burao—Hargeisa	119½
Zeilah—Arahalas	30
	1,000½

Motor Transport.

A further increase of traffic has been noticed during 1934. The principal routes used by mechanical transport are Berbera—Hargeisa, Hargeisa—Jijiga, and Berbera—Burao—Erigavo.

Cars of British manufacture are now being imported in greater numbers as a result of the improved facilities for obtaining spare parts from the agencies in Aden.

Number of licensed private cars in the Protectorate	32
Number of licensed commercial cars in the Protectorate	58
Number of licensed private and commercial cars imported into the Protectorate during the current year :—	
Private cars	5
Commercial cars	22

The following statement shows the countries of origin of the licensed cars in the Protectorate :—

British	16
United States of America, and Canada	72
French	1
Italian	1

The Government licensed cars are :—

25 cwt. Morris Commercial	5
Morris Oxford (His Majesty's Commissioner's car)	1
Humber Snipe („ „ „)	1
Ford (Water-boring party)	4

The total mileage of the Government motor transport in 1934 was 30,460 miles.

The comparative cost per ton-mile by Government motor transport and camel is :—

	Annas.
Government transport	6·2
Camel	4·7

The above figures do not include the mechanical transport of the Mechanized Company of the Somaliland Camel Corps, nor that used by the British Somaliland-Ethiopia Boundary Commission.

Posts and Telegraphs.

The headquarters of the Posts and Telegraphs Department are at Berbera.

The revenue and expenditure of the Department in respect of the last five years was as follows :—

	1934.	*1933.*	*1932.*	*1931.*	*1930.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	1,139	1,223	1,367	1,394	1,627
Expenditure ...	6,949	7,067	8,136	8,847	8,889

The Indian Post Office Act, 1898, was applied to British Somaliland by an order of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs dated 9th March, 1903, and the Protectorate Post Office was transferred from the Indian Administration and constituted under the above authority on the 1st June, 1903, the Protectorate becoming a member of the International Postal Union.

The operations against the Dervishes in 1903 necessitated the establishment of a number of Field Post Offices, the mails being carried by runners and camel riders. This system was maintained till 1925 for the conveyance of mails between the administrative stations in the interior, and, in the absence of railways and motor cars, proved generally a cheap, reliable and comparatively speedy service.

In 1925, a weekly motor car mail service was inaugurated, connecting Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, and Hargeisa. Other places are still served by mail runners.

Direct mails, which are exchanged weekly with London, Aden, and Bombay, are carried by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's mail steamers, regular connexions with

which are made by local contract steamers between Aden and Berbera. Letters to and from the United Kingdom are delivered within from 12 to 14 days.

The following are the denominations of postage stamps on sale in the Protectorate :—

Annas, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12.
Rupees, 1, 2, 3, 5.

The issue and payment of British postal orders were introduced in January, 1905, and during the same year arrangements were made with the British and Indian Post Offices for a direct exchange of money orders. A direct Telegraph Money Order Service between the Protectorate and the United Kingdom was introduced in 1916. In 1907, the cash on delivery and insurance of parcels, and the value payable and insurance of parcels, etc., services were introduced with Great Britain and India including Aden, and in the following year the insured letter service to Great Britain was commenced. The insured box service with Great Britain and certain other countries was introduced in 1926. The direct exchange of money orders with the Kenya and Uganda Administration, which had been introduced in 1910, was suspended in 1921 on account of exchange difficulties. Money orders to and from the East African Dependencies are exchanged through the intermediary of the Aden Post Office.

The present telegraph administration is the result of expansion and improvement of the military telegraphs used in connexion with the operations of the Somaliland Field Force in 1903, with subsequently the addition of wireless telegraphy.

A telegraph line connects Berbera with Sheikh and Burao, which are also served by telephone.

Wireless stations (1½ kilowatt) are in operation at Berbera, Borama, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, and Zeilah. The Borama station which was destroyed by fire in August, 1933, has been reconstructed, and was re-opened in December, 1934. The Zeilah wireless station was closed in December, 1934.

All stations are open to the public for inland and foreign telegrams. The charge on inland telegrams is two annas per word without minimum. The charges on foreign telegrams were revised in June, 1934. The principal full-rate charges are as follows :—

8 annas per word without a minimum to Aden.

Rs.1-15-0* per word without a minimum to the United Kingdom.

Rs.1-10-0* per word without a minimum to India.

The Daily Letter Telegram Service was introduced in 1933.

A service of telegrams conveying Christmas and New Year wishes (greetings telegrams) is admissible between the Protectorate and the United Kingdom during the period from 14th December to 6th January, inclusive.

* Half this rate is charged for deferred telegrams.

In April, 1927, a wireless receiving apparatus for the reception of the British Official News Service transmitted from Rugby was installed and gave satisfaction. Owing to shortage of staff it was not operated during 1933, and it was abandoned for financial reasons in 1934.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a branch of the commercial firm of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, Bombay, accepts deposits from private individuals, cashes cheques drawn on them, and arranges the transfer of funds to the United Kingdom and elsewhere through a branch of the firm at Aden.

The Government Savings Bank continues to gain ground. The rate of interest paid remains at 2½ per cent. and depositors from all classes of the community are taking advantage of the facilities offered.

Currency.

The monetary unit is the Government of India rupee at one shilling and sixpence. Rupees are legal tender for the payment of any amount and Government of India subsidiary coinage is legal tender for the payment of sums not in excess of five rupees. India Government Currency Notes are in circulation.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial standard of weights and measures is in force. The Indian and Somali traders also use certain of the weights and measures in force in British India.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

A general building programme was carried out at all stations in the Protectorate. The waterworks at Dubar were reconstructed, and the yield of water increased.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There is no Judicial or Legal Department in the Protectorate, but in 1935 a Legal Secretary will be appointed whose duties will be to advise the Commissioner on matters of law in all Court cases, to act as Registrar of the Protectorate Court, to advise the Commissioner on the legal aspects of all Government business, to draft legislation and to assist generally in the work of the Secretariat. The Criminal Courts consist of the Protectorate Court, District Courts of the first class, and District Courts of the second class. The Commissioner and Secretary to the Government are the judges of the Protectorate Court. During the absence of the Commissioner

or the Secretary to the Government, certain Protectorate Court cases may be tried by a District Officer specially empowered under Ordinance No. 3 of 1933. District Courts of the first class are held by District Officers and such other officers as the Commissioner may so empower. District Courts of the second class are held by those officers so empowered by the Commissioner. The District Courts are empowered by law to try all cases in which natives are parties except for sedition, treason or offences punishable with death. Cases beyond the jurisdiction of the District Courts, or possessing features which make a trial by the Protectorate Court desirable, are committed by the District Court for trial by the Protectorate Court. In cases where appeals lie from judgments of District Courts, the appeal is to the Protectorate Court sitting as a Court of Appeal, which is the final Appellate Court in the Protectorate.

The law of the Protectorate is :—

(*a*) Coded law, i.e., the Indian Penal Code as applied by the Somaliland Administration of Criminal Justice Ordinance (Chapter 4 of the Revised Edition of the Laws), and Local Ordinances.

(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan law.

A stricter legal control is now exercised. In past years, murder and homicide among the natives have been dealt with under tribal customs, but such crimes are now tried by the Criminal Courts.

In addition to Criminal and Civil cases under (*a*), tribal cases are investigated and judged by District Courts under a mixture of tribal custom, Mohammedan law and Indian law. This work forms the great bulk of the District Officers' work, since the Somali's inherent love of litigation and refusal to accept any decision except from the highest court of appeal lead to much work of a trivial nature which, if neglected, may result in inter-tribal fighting. The Kadis deal with cases falling entirely under Mohammedan law, and Courts of Akils or Elders have been set up to deal with the less important and contentious of tribal cases.

Crime.

The following summary shows the amount of crime in the Protectorate for 1934, as compared with the previous year :—

	1934.	*1933.*
Convictions for murder	1	5
Persons executed	—	4
Offences against the person	254	193
Offences against property	253	256
Other offences	747	505
Dia cases (inter-tribal killings settled under tribal custom)	7	7

Police.

The Somaliland Civil Police are constituted under the Somaliland Civil Police Ordinance. The force is under the control of the Commissioner, and has an establishment of four European officers, four Somali officers, and some 550 other ranks. Rank and file in stations other than Berbera are under the charge of District Officers.

Garrison duties are carried out by the force at Berbera, Erigavo, Zeilah, and Borama. The police are liable to serve as a military force when called upon by the Commissioner to discharge military duties.

Prisons.

The established prisons in the Protectorate are the Central Prison in Berbera and five District Prisons at Zeilah, Burao, Hargeisa, Borama, and Erigavo.

The Central Prison accommodates all convicts sentenced to terms of imprisonment exceeding six months, in addition to all prisoners convicted in the Berbera District.

The District Prisons accommodate prisoners convicted within Districts who are sentenced to imprisonment for six months or less.

In 1930, the Commandant of Police was appointed Director of Prisons with powers of inspection of all prisons in the Protectorate, and, further, with power to appoint a European officer, subject to the approval of the Commissioner, to be in responsible charge of the Berbera Prison for the purpose of carrying out the regulations made under the Prison Discipline Ordinance, 1918. The administration of District Prisons remained in the hands of District Officers.

The Central Prison occupies an area of some 6,700 square yards, the whole being surrounded by a stone wall from 11 to 17 feet high. Accommodation is provided for male, female, and juvenile convicts. In addition to the usual wards and cells, the prison is equipped with a dispensary, two sick wards capable of accommodating four lying-in cases, a workshop, and the usual offices. The prison is lighted by electricity.

Committals to the Central Prison during 1934, as compared with the two preceding years, were as follows :—

Year.	*For want of bail or for debt.*	*For penal imprisonment.*
1934	6	216
1933	Nil	250
1932	7	395

The bulk of the labour provided by the prisoners is unskilled, and is used on work of public utility such as road-making, quarrying stones, watering trees in Government grounds, etc.

A certain amount of skilled labour is carried out in the Central Prison, where long-sentence prisoners are taught to manufacture and repair articles of use to other departments. The manufacture of cane furniture for the Public Works Department is the main industry.

The Central Prison is visited at least once in every two months by the Visiting Justices.

Section 2 of the Administration of Criminal Justice (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931, provides that no young person under the age of 16 years shall be sentenced to imprisonment, if the court considers that suitable punishment can be imposed in some other way by placing on probation, or fine or corporal punishment, or committal to a place of detention, or otherwise. Local conditions would not permit of the institution of a regular probation system.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-one Ordinances were enacted during 1934, of which the following are the most important :—

The Dangerous Drugs Ordinance (No. 9 of 1934) which repealed and consolidated previous legislation.

The Importation of Textiles (Quotas) Ordinance (No. 12 of 1934) which was enacted to protect British industry against the importation of cheap foreign textiles.

The Merchandise Marks Ordinance (No. 21 of 1934).

Factory, etc., Legislation.

There is no factory legislation or legislative provision for sickness, old age, etc., in the Protectorate.

Compensation for accidents is provided for under the Employers Liability Ordinance (Chapter 60 of the Revised Edition of the Laws).

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The finances of the Protectorate have maintained in 1934 the improvement to be observed in 1933. The demand for skins which was a feature of the export trade of the previous year continued and increased to some extent, and importations were maintained at a high level.

No new forms of taxation have been introduced during the year, and preferential tariffs in favour of Empire goods continue in force.

Revenue.

The revenue from all sources amounted to £106,169, a decrease of £5,717 as compared with the previous year. The following table shows the principal sources of revenue for the years 1930-34.

	Customs.	*Licences and Taxes.*	*Court Fees and Government Services.*	*Other.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£	£
1930 ...	73,290	13,205	9,000	9,809*	105,304
1931 ...	63,347	14,484	11,585	12,477*	101,893
1932 ...	63,740	15,055	14,131	9,968*	102,894
1933 ...	73,318	22,347	10,645	5,576*	111,886
1934 ...	71,279	20,111	10,737	4,042*	106,169

* Includes receipts from the Colonial Development Fund.

Public Debt.

The net sum due by the Protectorate to the Imperial Treasury on 31st December, 1934, was £236,000. This sum represents the total of loans-in-aid of civil expenditure for the period 1921 to 1934.

The loan-in-aid received in 1934 was £16,000. Loans-in-aid are subject to repayment with interest as and when the finances of the Protectorate permit. No repayment has yet been made.

In addition to the loan-in-aid, the Protectorate is in receipt of an annual free grant-in-aid of military expenditure. The grant paid in 1934 was £36,000, and the total sum granted since 1st April, 1921, is £696,000.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year amounted to £167,656 and the following table shows the expenditure for the years 1930-34.

	Civil.	*Military.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£
1930	144,443*	54,583	199,026
1931	135,671*	50,091	185,762
1932	109,328*	46,912	156,240
1933	114,059*	39,761	153,820
1934	126,588*	41,068	167,656

* Includes expenditure from the Colonial Development Fund grants.

Civil expenditure exceeded that of 1933 by £12,529. This was due to the continuance of the famine relief measures which had been commenced in 1933 and which it was necessary to maintain for the greater part of 1934.

The increase of £1,307 in military expenditure as compared with 1933, was due mainly to Extraordinary Works including the re-building of and provision of doors for the Royal Air Force hangar at Burao.

Financial Position on 31st December, 1934.

The year opened with a surplus balance of revenue over expenditure at 1st January, 1934, of £27,493, and closed with a balance of £18,006, as follows :—

	£	£
Surplus on 1st January, 1934 ...		27,493
Deficit between Civil Revenue and Expenditure	20,775	
Loan-in-Aid	16,000	
Deficit		4,775
		22,718
Deficit between Military Revenue and Expenditure	40,712	
Grant-in-Aid	36,000	
Deficit		4,712
Surplus at 31st December, 1934 ...		£18,006

Customs Duties.

Authority:—The Customs Ordinance (Chapter 44, Revised Edition of the Laws) and amending Ordinances 1930 to 1934. The Alcoholic Liquors Ordinance (Chapter 29, Revised Edition of the Laws), and amending Ordinances 1930 to 1933.

The Customs duties are classified under two heads : (*a*) Specific Duties ; (*b*) *Ad Valorem* Duties.

The value at which *ad valorem* duty is assessed is : (*a*) in accordance with the Tariff which is approved yearly on 1st April by His Excellency the Commissioner and which is open for inspection at each Custom House ; (*b*) where no provision is made in the Tariff (i) in the case of imports, the wholesale cash price less trade discount, for which goods of the like kind and quality are sold or are capable of being sold, at the time and place of importation, without any abatement or deduction except the amount of the duties payable on the importation thereof ; and (ii) in the case of exports, the prevailing market price at the port of exportation as ascertained monthly by the Treasurer and Chief of Customs or as manifested on exporters' invoices.

Tariff.

Imports.

Specific Duties :—

	Ordinary Rate.	*Preferential Rate.*
	Rs. as. ps.	Rs. as. ps.
Alcoholic Liquors, per gallon ...	13 3 0	12 0 0
Rice, per 168 lb.	2 12 0	2 8 0
Sugar, per 28 lb.	1 0 0	0 12 0
Dates, per 168 lb.	1 12 0	—
Grey Sheeting, per 750 yds. ...	77 0 0	—
White Long Cloth, per 40 yds. ...	5 8 0	4 0 0
Matches per standard box ...	0 0 4	0 0 3
Matches per large box ...	0 0 8	0 0 6
Currants, Greek, per cwt. ...	1 0 0	—

Ad Valorem Duties :—

Rice (certain varieties), building materials, mats, matting and native pottery, naphthaline, fresh, dried and preserved fruit and vegetables, fresh and preserved provisions, and articles of European attire ...	20 per cent.	10 per cent.
Live stock and all other goods, with certain exceptions	25 per cent.	15 per cent.

Exports.

Live stock and local produce with certain exceptions	10 per cent.

The preferential rates of duty are extended to articles produced or manufactured in and consigned from the British Empire.

The following are the customs ports and frontier customs stations at which the above import and export duties are collected :—

Customs Ports:—Berbera, Zeilah, Las Khoreh, Heis, and Elayu.

Frontier Customs Stations:—Zeilah, Elayu, Hargeisa, Gibileh, and Borama (goods in transit only).

Subject to certain exceptions, a rebate of half of the Protectorate rates is allowed on all goods, having their origin within the Administrative District of Zeilah, exported from Zeilah, and two-thirds on all goods imported at Zeilah for consumption within the administrative district of Zeilah.

Goods in Transit.

(*a*) *Transit duty.*—On all goods imported in transit to and from Ethiopia, 1 per cent. *ad valorem.*

(*b*) *Valuation.*—The value of goods imported in transit for purposes of transit duty is the wholesale cash price, less trade discount, for which goods of the like kind are sold or are capable of being sold at the time and place of importation without any abatement or deduction except the amount of the duties payable on the importation thereof.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

All land in the Protectorate except in proclaimed townships may be said to be vested in the Somali tribes. Outside the townships no individual title to land is recognized (except in the case of a few small religious settlements) nor is any sectional title to any particular area recognized as giving any particular section of the tribe an exclusive right to that area. It is the habit of certain sections always to graze in the same area and this in practice gives them a prescriptive title to that area, but theoretically and legally individuals of other sections have the right to enter such areas and to use the grazing as necessity dictates. In the western part of the Protectorate, where large areas of ground are under cultivation, the tribal title has been restricted to the extent that the right of individual cultivators to the enjoyment of the area cultivated is recognized, but only so long as effective cultivation is continued.

Government has taken powers to expropriate land for public purposes, on payment of compensation for damage done thereby to an individual or section. Land so expropriated becomes Crown Land.

The township areas are divided into two classes:—

(*a*) old-established towns on the coast, such as Berbera and Zeilah; and

(*b*) recently-established towns in the interior.

In class (*a*), the matter has been allowed to remain undefined. In practice, disputes as to ownership seldom arise.

In class (*b*), Government has introduced legislation to give to individuals a valid title to ground. All townships are of such recent growth that, except in five small plots in Hargeisa, no claim to freehold has been established, and leases or temporary occupation licences have been given to such of the present occupiers as wish to secure a legal title to their land.

Rainfall.

The big rains were late in breaking, and though at one time a partial failure seemed likely, they eventually fell plentifully. Grazing was good all over the Protectorate, and the stock was in excellent condition.

Political Situation.

Plentiful rain brings good grazing for the camels and ensures for the Somali a generous supply of camel's milk. In this condition the Somali may be compared with the traditional Irishman when well primed with the liquor of his country. The latter brandishes his shillelagh and looks for heads to crack : the Somali sharpens his spear and begins to think of blood-feuds to settle and flocks to loot. Consequently the welcome rain does not always bring a period of peace. However, in 1934, no cause for serious alarm arose, and the attitude of the tribes to the Government was, on the whole, satisfactory.

Burao District.—The dacoit activity, referred to in the last report under this heading, died down in the early part of the year, when the last band was broken up, after fights with Government illalo and some Italian armed irregulars.

The Habr Yunis, rer Ainashe, killed a Government illalo in October, and then decamped across the frontier.

Hargeisa District.—Heavy losses in stock occurred as a result of the lateness of the rains, and a number of loots were carried out by the Ogaden against our tribes. The latter carried out one counter-loot, but the stolen stock was recovered and returned to the owners. The payment of the balance due under the Ogaden-Ishaak Claims Conference, 1932 (see last report) assisted peaceful administration.

Erigavo District.—A quiet year was recorded.

Zeilah District.—The year generally was a peaceful one, marred, however, in March, by the murder, in Ethiopian territory, by a party of the Esa tribe, of Herr Emil Beitz, a German member of the Ethiopian section of the British Somaliland-Ethiopia Boundary Commission. Operations in which the Ethiopian authority co-operated were undertaken by the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, and Somaliland Police to capture those implicated in the outrage. Many arrests were made by the British, French, and Ethiopian authorities, and at the end of the year a number of these suspects were awaiting trial at Harar before a joint British-Ethiopian tribunal.

British Somaliland-Ethiopia Boundary Commission.—During the year, the position of the Anglo-Franco-Ethiopian trijunction point was settled, and demarcation of the Anglo-Ethiopian boundary was completed.

Hostility to the Commission on the part of elements of the Esa tribe manifested itself at the end of February, culminating early in March in the murder, in an ambush, of Herr Emil Beitz, Assistant Commissioner and *Chef Technique* of the Ethiopian Section. During the subsequent operations, liaison between the British, French, and Ethiopian authorities was maintained through the British Section.

Discussions in connexion with the limits of trans-frontier grazing were commenced in November, when a visit was made to the Ogaden country, and by the end of the year, the limits of the greater part of the area involved had been discussed. Astronomical observations had also been made at Dagahbur, Harodiget and Hara Ado; compass traverses of the main caravan tracks in the area—a total of close on 1,700 miles—had also been carried out.

The majority of the final documents of the Commission had been drawn up by the end of the year for signature in Addis Ababa on the completion of all work—probably during March, 1935.

In January and February, the necessary survey operations were carried out by the British Section to enable a reliable topographical map of the Anglo-French frontier zone to be made from air photographs taken by the Royal Air Force in the first half of 1933.

Every opportunity has been taken by the British Section to extend the area covered by their reconnaissance map on the 1/125,000 scale.

Italian Royal Visit.

The Protectorate was honoured by a visit from His Majesty the King of Italy on the 21st November.

His Majesty, who was accompanied by General de Bono, Minister of the Colonies, and by other officers of State, disembarked at Berbera from the Royal Yacht *Savoia* at 9.30 a.m. and was received in State. After a call at Government House, His Majesty and the Royal suite drove through the town, which had been decorated for the occasion, and for a few miles along the Berbera-Hargeisa road. Towards the end of this drive, torrential rain began to fall, and it continued with such violence that the remainder of the programme arranged for His Majesty's entertainment had regretfully to be cancelled.

The Royal Yacht *Savoia* escorted by the cruiser *Gorizia* sailed from Berbera at 5.30 p.m. on the same day.

Appendix

List of Publications relating to British Somaliland

	£ s. d.	*To be purchased from*
Laws of the Somaliland Protectorate—Revised Edition	1 0	The Treasurer, Berbera, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Notices, Proclamations, Regulations and Rules in force on the 30th June, 1930	1 0 0	The Treasurer, Berbera, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Supplement to the Laws of the Somaliland Protectorate, 1930–32	1 0 0	The Treasurer, Berbera, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Report on the Somaliland Agricultural and Geological Department for 1927 and 1928 ...	0 5 0	Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Somaliland Annual Geological Report, 1929 ...	0 2 0	Crown Agents for the Colonies.
The Geology of British Somaliland, by W. A. Macfadyen, M.C., M.A., Ph.D. (Cantab.), F.G.S., F.R.G.S., M.Inst.P.T. (Part I of the Geology and Palæontology of British Somaliland) ...	0 12 6	Crown Agents for the Colonies or through any Bookseller.

British Somaliland (Drake-Brockman), London, 1917.

Somaliland (Hamilton), London, 1911.

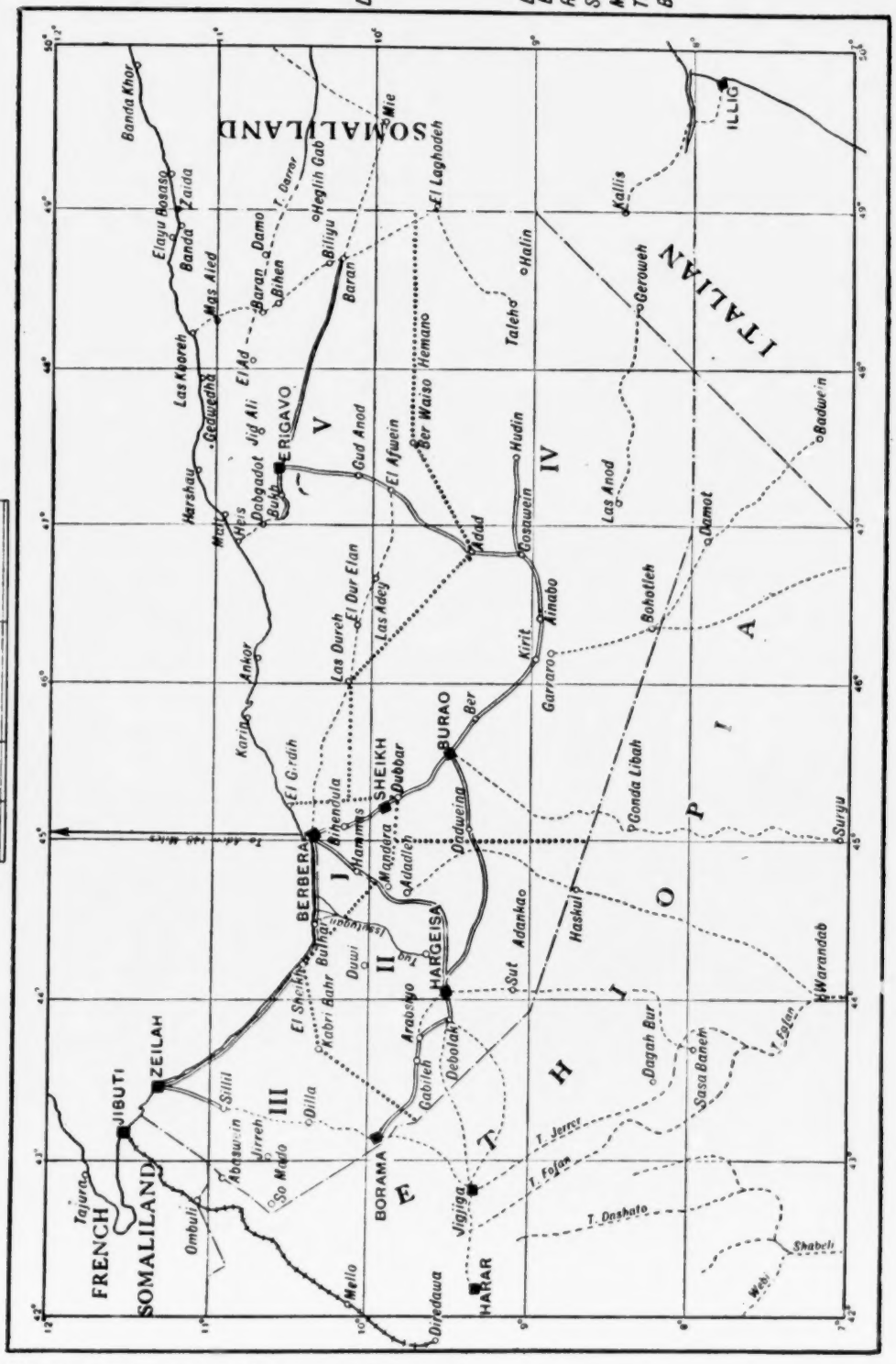
The Mad Mullah of Somaliland (Jardine), London, 1923.

Sun, Sand and Somals (Rayne), London, 1921.

Seventeen Trips in Somaliland (Swayne), London.

Under the Flag and Somali Coast Stories (Walsh), London.

BRITISH SOMALILAND.



(30000—48) Wt. 423—3426 625 7/35 P. St. G. 377/7

Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

MIGRATION.
Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*)

MALTA.
Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 11*d.*).
Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 9*d.*).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3717.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4*s.* (4*s.* 4*d.*).
Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3*d.* (3½*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

KENYA.
Native Affairs Department Annual Report for 1932. 3*s.* (3*s.* 4*d.*).
Report by the Financial Commissioner (Lord Moyne) on Certain Questions in Kenya. May, 1932. [Cmd. 4093.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

KENYA, UGANDA, AND THE TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.
Railway Rates and Finance. Report by Mr. Roger Gibb, September, 1932. [Cmd. 4235.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 7*d.*).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.
Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 8*d.*).
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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF SOMALILAND FOR 1935

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Protectorate of British Somaliland has for its northern boundary about 450 miles of coast-line on the Gulf of Aden, and extends from Loyi Ada (Hadu), longitude 43° 15′ East, as far as the forty-ninth degree of East longitude, close to the town of Banda Ziada.

The Protectorate marches with Italian Somaliland from Banda Ziada to a point in latitude 8° North; thence with Ethiopia to near Jalelo, and with French Somaliland from near Jalelo to Loyi Ada (Hadu) on the coast.

The area of the Protectorate is about 68,000 square miles. Topographically it consists of the following four main features, extending southwards from the coast-line:—

(*a*) An almost bare, gently rising, alluvial coastal plain ranging in breadth from about half a mile in the east to about 60 miles in the west: this is succeeded by

(*b*) a maritime plain, with a similar slope, on which are numerous broken ridges of limestone and hills of igneous rock, and which varies in breadth from a mile or two in the east and west to about 30 miles in the middle. The native name for both the coastal and maritime plains is *Guban*.

(*c*) A vertical escarpment of limestone about 2,000 feet thick, resting on igneous rocks which, at the bottom of the scarp, form foothills and ridges up to 3,500 feet in height. The escarpment (native name *Golis*) trends roughly east and west, and is pronounced from the eastern boundary to a little west of the middle line of the Protectorate. Further west, it is largely replaced by ridges of igneous rock.

(*d*) From the top of the scarp, a long, wide, and almost featureless plateau (native name *Ogo*) slopes gently downwards to the south-east into the Haud, a belt of thorn wilderness and pasturages, extending into Ethiopian and Italian territory. Each of these four main features has its characteristic vegetation, dependent on climate and rainfall.

The maritime plain, with a hot climate and small rainfall, supports in places frankincense and myrrh trees. The ridges and foothills near the base of the escarpment, with a cooler climate and larger rainfall, are, especially in the eastern half of the country, partly covered with trees of *Acacia Verek*. On the top of the escarpment, at altitudes between 4,500 and 6,000 feet, a species of box (*Buxus Hildebrandtii*) is very common, especially in the Erigavo District. Some thirty miles west of Sheikh, this species flourishes on granitic hills at altitudes down to 3,500 feet.

At altitudes above 6,000 feet on top of the escarpment are patches of cedar (*Juniperus Procera*). In one locality, north-west of Erigavo, where the escarpment reaches a height of 7,500 feet, these trees form a small forest, and they have also been found at intervals almost up to the south-western boundary.

On the interior plateau, the average rainfall ranges from about 20 inches a year in the west to about 10 inches in the east and 8 inches in the south and south-east. The plateau consists in part of an open savannah of thorny acacias, in part of grass-covered plains; and though, over the greater part of it, the rainfall is low and the grazing is on the whole somewhat indifferent, this part of the Protectorate supports the bulk of the stock—camels, sheep, goats and cattle—on which most of the native population subsist.

On parts of the maritime plain, among the foothills of the escarpment, and, especially in the west, on several flats between the ridges to the north of the main escarpment, are areas of *Sansevieria Ehrenbergii* (*Hig*), a plant which is somewhat similar to sisal, and of which the fibre is considered to be of some commercial value.

Owing to the scanty water supply, the camel is the animal most suited to the country, but cattle thrive, especially in the hills, and sheep and goats do excellently so long as the rainfall is up to the average.

The chief ports are Berbera, Zeilah, and Las Khoreh.

There are no hotels of any sort in the Protectorate. There are furnished rest-houses at Berbera, Burao, and Hargeisa, but only that at Berbera provides messing facilities. There are no European private residents in British Somaliland, and it is necessary for all intending visitors to obtain permission from the Secretary to the Government to enter the Protectorate. It is essential for such visitors to arrive completely self-contained, unless they have made arrangements privately for accommodation with officers of the Protectorate.

Climate.

Somaliland has a small but fairly regular rainfall. The dry season lasts from December to March, during which period there is practically no rain. The big rains fall during April and May and they are succeeded by the south-west monsoon (called locally the *kharif*), which blows from June till October—the hottest period of the year. The *kharif* is very trying to Europeans, particularly on the coast, where the heat and dust make concentrated work difficult.

On the higher ground in the interior the heat is at no time intolerable, and the nights are generally cool.

From November to March the climate is quite pleasant, the heat on the coast being tempered by the sea breeze.

The rainfalls in the country are very local, and consequently there is often considerable variation in local conditions as to grazing, rainpools, etc.

The meteorological statistics are as follows:—

Station.	*Total Rainfall.*	*Mean Maximum.*	*Mean Minimum.*	*Absolute Maximum.*	*Absolute Minimum.*	*Total Rainfall for previous four years.*			
	1935.					*1934.*	*1933.*	*1932.*	*1931.*
	Inches	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Berbera ...	6·20	92·5	77·8	109·0	63·0	1·70	0·86	2·20	1·43
Sheikh ...	16·58	71·4	44·6	84·0	31·0	18·17	17·07	18·79	19·43
Burao ...	7·26	85·3	62·0	93·0	50·0	5·67	5·58	5·58	9·79
Hargeisa ...	18·26	85·1	55·9	95·0	33·0	15·19	12·42	15·28	25·35
Zeilah ...	3·29	90·5	77·5	107·0	62·0	5·46	2·05	8·12	0·66
Borama ...	25·99	82·4	58·6	92·0	36·0	18·37	15·90	25·99	20·24
Erigavo ...	13·53	77·4	49·1	84·0	32·0	12·53	9·81	11·07	10·53

N.B.—Highest velocity of wind recorded in Berbera during the year 1935 was 58 miles per hour on 3rd July.

History.

Prior to 1884 the administration of the Somali Coast had been in the hands of the Egyptian Government. Upon its collapse in 1884, a Protectorate was proclaimed by Great Britain, and the boundaries were settled by agreements with France, Italy, and Ethiopia. Until 1898 the Protectorate was administered by the Resident at Aden as a Dependency of the Government of India. In that year it was transferred to the charge of the Foreign Office, and on 1st April 1905, to the Colonial Office.

From 1901 to 1920 the history of the Protectorate is largely a history of campaigns against Mohammed bin Abdulla Hassan, the "Mad Mullah." In 1901, 1902, and 1903, expeditions were sent against the Mullah, and in January 1904, a crushing defeat was inflicted on him at Jidballeh. He then retired into Italian territory and claimed Italian protection. An agreement was made between him and the Italian Government, but the Mullah soon disregarded this agreement and commenced further aggressive actions against the tribes under British protection.

In 1908, a policy of coastal concentration was adopted. In March 1910, all troops were withdrawn from the country, except for small garrisons at the three ports of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeilah. This policy did not prove a success, and in 1912-3 the strict coastal concentration was abandoned and administration in the interior was gradually resumed. From 1914 desultory fighting continued until 1920, when a combined attack with land and air forces scattered the Mullah and his followers, and captured all his forts and possessions. The Mullah fled into Ethiopia, where he died in February 1921.

In recent years, conditions have been peaceful with the exception of inter-tribal cattle raids both in the Protectorate and outside its borders. As indulgence in these is the hereditary pastime of all Somalis, they need not be regarded very seriously, since they can be checked, and are being checked, by extension of administration.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Protectorate is administered by the Governor and, in his absence, by the Secretary to the Government. There is neither Executive nor Legislative Council. The powers of the Governor are defined in the Somaliland Orders in Council, 1929 to 1935.

Departments of Government.

The Governor's office and Secretariat are at Sheikh, and the headquarters of the Treasury and Customs, Police and Prisons, Medical, Posts and Telegraphs, and Public Works Departments are at Berbera. The Veterinary and Agricultural Officer is stationed at Burao. The Geological Department was abolished in 1934.

District Administration.

For administrative purposes the Protectorate has been divided into five districts, each of which is in charge of a District Officer. The five districts are Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, and Zeilah. The headquarters of the Zeilah District are at Borama.

Military Garrison.

The Military Garrison of the Protectorate consists of the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, with headquarters at Burao and a detachment at Hargeisa.

Two aeroplanes of the Aden Squadron, Royal Air Force, are stationed in Somaliland. Aerodromes or landing grounds are maintained at Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, Hargeisa, Borama, Zeilah, Erigavo, Hudin, Las Anod, Bihen and Bohotle.

III.—POPULATION.

The Somali population is estimated at 344,700. According to the non-native census taken in April 1931, the non-native population was 2,683, including 68 Europeans, 520 Indians, 1,614 Arabs, 100 Ethiopians, and 258 Nyasaland natives of the Somaliland Camel Corps.

IV.—HEALTH.

The staff of the Medical Department of the Protectorate consists of a Senior Medical Officer, four Medical Officers, three Assistant Surgeons and three Sub-Assistant Surgeons, two clerks and subordinate staff.

Well equipped hospitals for natives only are established at Berbera, Burao, Borama, Erigavo and Hargeisa, and smaller ones at Zeilah and Sheikh, as well as a Dispensary at Las Khoreh.

A total of 48,951 out-patients and 3,125 in-patients were treated, as compared with 49,034 and 3,257 respectively in the previous year. The figures this year would have been appreciably lower had it not been for abnormally heavy rains falling throughout the Protectorate during the latter half of the year, and a consequent outbreak of Malaria chiefly in the Ain and Nogal areas. Medical Officers had been attached to the troops temporarily posted there owing to the unsettled political conditions in Ethiopia, and it was possible, therefore, to deal with the outbreak without delay.

After Berbera, Burao continues to show the largest numbers both of in-patients and of out-patients, and an increase of hospital accommodation has been found necessary. The addition of two wards has been sanctioned by the local Government, and it is anticipated that they will be built early next year.

Smallpox was more prevalent and was of a more serious type. There were 243 cases with 23 deaths, as compared with 93 cases and two deaths last year.

Berbera Lunatic Asylum consists of a hollow square formed of cells and offices surrounding an open space, the centre of which is covered by a roof on pillars. All the rooms are ten feet high, and there are 20 rooms and adequate offices. There were 12 patients remaining on 1st January, 1935, and six were admitted during the year; seven were discharged as cured, one died, and 10 remained on 31st December.

It has been found necessary to add a small extension to the Leper Camp at Berbera. The numbers of lepers had increased from an average of 22-24 to 31 at one time. Twenty-four remained on 1st January 1935, seven were admitted and two have been discharged as non-infective.

No case of rabies was reported during 1935, but 19 persons were given anti-rabic vaccine on account of their having been bitten by animals, mostly jackals and hyenas.

As no Government, or European, Dentist is available in the Protectorate, all European and non-European officers are permitted to visit Aden for the purpose of obtaining dental treatment, if a medical certificate has first been obtained to the effect that dental treatment is necessary in the interest of the general health of the officer concerned, and that the treatment cannot be postponed without detriment to the officer's health.

V.—HOUSING.

The normal Somali dwelling is the *gurgi*, a dome-shaped hut constructed of a pliable stick framework and covered with mats. The *gurgi* is movable and can be readily dismantled and packed on camels when a change of ground for any reason becomes necessary.

In the towns the trading Somali and the poorer class of Indian may sometimes be found living in an *arish* (wattle and daub hut).

The indiscriminate setting up of *gurgis* and other temporary dwellings within townships is not permitted, and is controlled by the District Officers, who may set aside areas in which such temporary habitations may be installed.

Government officers are housed in well-built stone and plaster houses. Berbera is the only town with a pipe-borne water supply available for public use, but water is laid on to Government quarters in Sheikh and Burao. In other stations, the sanitary arrangements are of a primitive, though satisfactory, character.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

The Agricultural and Geological Department was abolished in 1934, and agriculture is now under the general supervision of the

Veterinary and Agricultural Officer. Agriculture is chiefly confined to the western half of the Protectorate, *viz.*, the Hargeisa and Borama Districts, in a strip of country about eighty miles long and ranging in width from two to fifteen miles, with an average rainfall of about seventeen inches. Latterly it has been extending in parts of the plateau country in the centre of the Protectorate at Adadleh and between Hahi and Oadweina.

There are no plantations owned or managed by Europeans in the country, and all efforts at improving native agriculture have to be carried out by the Government. The main crops produced are sorghum and maize, but gram, barley, and wheat (an Ethiopian variety) are also grown.

No locusts swarms of any magnitude visited the Protectorate during 1935.

Water-boring.

Operations (which are being financed by grants from the Colonial Development Fund) were resumed in January in accordance with a carefully drawn up programme of which the basis was the search for underground supplies in localities in which the most favourable prospects of obtaining them appeared to exist, and in which at the same time they were badly needed. In order to speed up the work and to demonstrate as soon as possible the real value of the prospects, it was arranged that, simultaneously with the drilling operations on the large grazing area of Tug Wajaleh, efforts should be made to provide adequate supplies for the two stations Sheikh and Burao, and for other centres as opportunity offered.

A very considerable measure of success has been achieved during the year. In the Tug Wajaleh area, three successful bore-holes have been put down, each of which is capable of giving a supply in excess of the capacity of the windmills provided for the scheme. One windmill was erected early in the year, and this supplied all the water needed not only for the camp and for the drilling rig, but also, during the latter part of the year, for the military detachment stationed there. The supplies proved will be adequate for the needs of thousands of stock.

A complete installation, comprising pumping-plant, storage tank, piping and stand-pipes, has been set up at Sheikh.

At Burao, permanent supplies were proved at a depth of 70 feet, and a complete installation comprising pumping-plant, tanks, pipe-lines, trough and stand-pipes has been set up for both the Military (Somaliland Camel Corps and Royal Air Force) headquarters and for the Civil establishment.

In both these stations the installations have been thoroughly satisfactory, and have also already resulted in considerable financial savings to Government.

The work of sinking a new shaft near the old polluted well at the important stock centre of Ainabo was taken in hand. Water was struck, and all arrangements have been made to install a power plant as soon as the staff is available.

A complete water-supply scheme has been drawn up for both Zeilah and Borama; the application for a grant of the money necessary for the former has been approved and most of the plant and equipment for it had arrived by the end of the year.

Veterinary.

No widespread outbreaks of disease have occurred.

In spite of the prevalence of rinderpest in Ethiopia local preventive measures have kept the Protectorate free of this disease.

Cases of foot and mouth disease and of pleuro-pneumonia of cattle have occurred in the Borama district, probably due to infection brought over from Ethiopia.

Contagious pleuro-pneumonia caused heavy mortality amongst the native flocks of goats.

There have been no cases of Trypanosomiasis (native name: surra) in the camels of the Somaliland Camel Corps, but native herds have suffered great losses from this disease. Injections with Naganol continue to prove popular and efficacious, but the cause of the disease has not yet been definitely established.

Sarcoptic mange of sheep and camels has been prevalent, and there is a steady demand for both lime and sulphur dip, and treatment with a coal tar disinfectant has also proved successful.

No cases of horse sickness or anthrax have been encountered, and only one case of rabies has been confirmed.

The numbers of native stock are estimated to be 1,500,000 camels, 2,500,000 sheep, 2,000,000 goats, 30,000 cattle, 2,000 donkeys and 1,500 horses.

Fisheries.

Although tropical fish of every variety, such as shark, great and small rays, barracuda and other sphyraenae, durab or wolf-herring, dolphins, sea perches, sword-fish, rock cod, different species of sardinella, tunny, mullets, horse-mackerel, king-fish, crawfish, and bêche-de-mer (trepang) are abundant, yet the few natives engaged in the fishery industry use only a handline with a single hook for trolling and bottom fishing and a light casting net to obtain bait. There is no co-operation between them and they sail out in their canoes to the fishing grounds only when dire necessity compels them. If one is exceptionally successful and realizes a substantial profit, he ceases to labour for as many days as it would have taken him to accumulate this sum from his average daily earnings. Consequently, the local supply of fish on sale in the towns is considerably less than the actual demand. A few passing shark-fishing dhows, manned by Arabs, Sudanese, and Dankalis, occasionally stop at the ports to net sharks in the harbour and in the deep sea. After completing the operation of salting the fins

for the Chinese market and the flesh for the consumption of their countrymen, and extracting the "*seefa*" or liver oil which is used for caulking native craft, they resume their voyage.

Since foreign dhows have been excluded from fishing within the French and Italian territorial waters, a number of native smacks have been withdrawn from the mother-of-pearl and trochee shell fisheries. Within the limit to which the divers are now restricted, they cannot collect a sufficient quantity to realize a profit. Although the gamble of obtaining a valuable gem after opening thousands of mother-of-pearl shells always will be an incentive to engage in the industry, yet it is from the sale of the empty shells that the divers derive their maintenance.

Licences to fish and to dive for pearls are obligatory upon all fishermen other than natives of British Somaliland or persons ordinarily resident therein. The rates are Rs.50 and Rs.100 per annum respectively. These licences were introduced by the Fisheries Ordinance, 1934, to regulate the activities of visiting foreign fishermen in the territorial waters of the Protectorate.

VII.—COMMERCE.

Customs.

The value of the Protectorate trade during the year 1935 was Rs.53,26,507 compared with Rs.54,13,248 in 1934. The following comparative table shows the value of imports and exports excluding specie for the last five years:—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total.*
	Rs.	*Rs.*	*Rs.*
1931 ...	41,35,139	26,74,352	68,09,491
1932 ...	40,77,827	21,42,030	62,19,857
1933 ...	37,88,671*	19,54,166*	57,42,837*
1934 ...	35,80,851*	18,32,397*	54,13,248*
1935 ...	36,27,046*	16,99,461*	53,26,507*

Imports.

The import trade during 1935 was distributed in the following proportions between the Protectorate ports:—

Port.	*Amount.*	*Percentage.*				
		1931.	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*
	Rs.					
Berbera ...	28,31,869	79·4	77·5	78·0	75·2	78·1
Bulhar† ...	—	·5	—	—	—	—
Zeilah... ...	5,49,540	15·2	12·6	16·4	17·7	15·1
Makhir Coast...	2,45,637	4·9	9·9	5·6	7·1	6·8

* Exclusive of goods in transit previously included.

† Bulhar was closed as a Customs port in May 1931.

The following were the commodities principally comprising the import trade :—

Article.	*Country of Origin.*	*Unit.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.**	*1934.**	*1935.**
Grey Sheeting.	United States of America.	Yd.	12,750	—	—	—	—
	China.	,,	27,450	—	—	—	—
	U.S.S.R.	,,	—	—	7,200	8,050,	4,155
	Japan.	,,	2,312,752	1,939,687	694,263	545,426	406,548
	United Kingdom.	,,	—	—	—	1,830	7,059
	India.	,,	—	—	—	—	286,450
Long Cloth	United Kingdom.	,,	1,060,017	930,468	618,928	637,178	837,549
	Japan.	,,	109,800	297,086	42,370	65,322	76,468
Dates ...	Persian Gulf.	Cwt.	65,276	81,588	43,125	42,866	49,207
Rice ...	India.	,,	112,034	100,182	160,215	166,550	123,654
Sugar ...	United Kingdom.	,,	—	—	61,848	55,346	62,481
	Java.	,,	50,334	54,267	196	646	1,360
	Italy.	,,	—	—	—	4,550	20

The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.2,97,781, British manufacture which was introduced in 1934 was continued throughout 1935. The commodity principally affected has been, as previously, grey sheeting, of which the quotas for the year were 406,848 yards of Japanese manufacture and 17,536 yards of any other foreign manufacture.

Exports.

The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.2,97,781, amounted to Rs.16,99,461 and distributed in the following proportions between the Protectorate ports :—

Port.	*Amount.*	*Percentage.*				
		1931.	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*
	Rs.					
Berbera ...	10,46,890	72·1	70·3	68·3	62·9	61·6
Bulhar† ...	—	·1	—	—	—	—
Zeilah	4,99,979	20·1	21·3	25·4	31·7	29·4
Makhir Coast...	1,52,592	7·7	8·1	6·3	5·4	9·0

* Exclusive of goods in transit previously included.

† Bulhar was closed as a Customs port in May 1931.

The following were the main indigenous products shipped from the Protectorate :—

Article.	*Country of destination.*	*Unit.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.**	*1934.**	*1935.**
Bullocks...	Aden and Suez	Nos.	857	756	1,086	884	1,847
Sheep and Goats.	Aden and Mukalla	„	104,682	136,497	120,189	95,127	88,866
Skins (sheep and goats).	Europe and America via Aden.	„	997,221	1,079,796	1,715,750	1,848,953	1,099,887
Hides ...	Aden ...	Cwt.	37	—	—	30	13
Gums and Resins.	Europe and India via Aden.	„	11,880	16,669	8,467	7,329	13,176
Ghee ...	Aden ...	„	7,247	5,913	1,643	534	1,712

* Exclusive of goods in transit previously included.

Land Customs.

ZEILAH.

The export statistics of the Land Customs station for the years 1931-1935 are as under :—

Item.	*Unit.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*
Horses	Nos. ...	4	13	28	31	6
Camels	„ ...	182	297	455	616	830
Donkeys	„ ...	4	4	20	5	9
Cattle	„ ...	467	275	569	371	862
Sheep and Goats ...	„ ...	17,914	20,737	20,600	13,197	9,834
Salt...	Cwt. ...	1,909	39,219	53,765	62,822	51,275

Salt.—The following table shows the working of the Zeilah salt industry for the period from 1932 to 1935 :—

Year.	*Quantity Exported.*		
	By land. Cwt.	*By sea.* Cwt.	*Total.* Cwt.
1932	39,219	845	40,064
1933	53,765	318	54,083
1934	62,822	394	63,216
1935	51,275	980	52,255

The bulk of salt exports are sent overland from Zeilah to Ethiopia.

HARGEISA AND BORAMA.

At Hargeisa, duty amounting to Rs.547-13-0 was collected on 1,748 akaras or bundles of kat (*Katha Edulis*) imported from Ethiopia, and at Borama differential duty to the amount of Rs.21-11-0 was paid on goods originally imported at Zeilah by sea. In 1934 the corresponding items were Rs.276-8-0 (878½ akaras) and Rs.298-8-0.

Transit Trade.

Customs duty at the rate of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* is levied on merchandise in transit through the Protectorate to and from Ethiopia. The value of goods so imported and exported since 1931 was :—

	Rs.
1931	12,42,200
1932	10,77,347
1933	11,54,051
1934	13,73,287
1935	17,22,707

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The few Somalis who work for their living are employed either as coolies, clerks, and subordinates in Government Departments, or as personal servants. The approximate wages of the various types are :—

Coolies, 8 annas a day (8 hours).
Clerks, Rs.40 to Rs.350 a month (according to grade).
Personal servants, Rs.15 to Rs.45 a month.
Motor drivers, Rs.35 to Rs.100 a month.

The staple food of the Somali in Government or private employ is a daily ration composed of 1 lb. rice, ½ lb. dates, and 2 ounces of ghee, the value of which is usually about 3 annas.

The average cost of living for Europeans is about Rs.5 (7s. 6d.) a head *per diem* for a married couple. For one adult the cost would be relatively higher. The figure given does not include servants' wages, cost of entertaining, or club expenses.

IX.—EDUCATION, WELFARE INSTITUTIONS, AND RECREATION.

Education.

There have been indications during the last few years that the instinctive opposition of the Somalis to secular education for their children is losing strength. There is certainly strong competition among the more enlightened to secure places for their sons in the Gordon College at Khartoum, and petitions, which are under

consideration, have been received for increased facilities for education. It is, however, characteristic of the Somali mentality that the Education scheme, commenced in 1930 and referred to in previous reports, has been productive, so far, of very meagre results. This scheme required the co-operation of the Somalis, but, although the monetary grants to certain Koranic schools were received with some enthusiasm, little effort was made by them to apply the funds seriously for the furtherance of education. During 1935 small grants of money and school materials were made to the Koranic schools at Zeilah, Berbera, Borama, Hargeisa, and Burao.

There are five Somali boys being educated at Gordon College, Khartoum (partly at Government expense and partly at the expense of the relatives of the boys), two of whom are being trained as Kadis.

There is a small Government elementary school in Berbera, attended by Somali, Arab, and Indian children.

Welfare Institutions.

There are no welfare institutions in British Somaliland, but a camp is maintained at Berbera for the accommodation and feeding of destitute Somalis. At the end of the year, 160 persons were being maintained in the camp.

Recreation.

There are primitive golf courses at most stations in the Protectorate, and tennis is played at all stations. There are cricket pitches at Berbera, Burao, and Sheikh, which are used when sufficient enthusiasts are gathered together. The greatest activity in this direction occurs on the occasions when the Protectorate is visited by one of His Majesty's ships.

The Somali is a fine natural athlete and takes eagerly to cricket, football, and hockey. At hockey, as in cricket, the Somali is a great individualist and much training is needed to attain combination. Both games call for strict umpiring. The Police and Somaliland Camel Corps both field very good hockey teams, as also do the towns of Berbera, Burao, and Sheikh.

Polo is played by the Camel Corps, and riding is a popular pastime with many Europeans in the country. Wart-hog abound in places, and opportunities for pig-sticking are plentiful, while the big and small game of the country provide good sport.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

There is a weekly service from Aden, which is worked by local contract, the ships connecting at Aden with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's outward and homeward bound ships.

The following is a comparative table of the steam and motor vessels and country craft shipping which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the last five years :—

	1931.		*1932.*		*1933.*		*1934.*		*1935.*	
	Nos.	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*
Entered ...	581	72,673	694	51,923	687	58,306	772	69,530	684	75,060
Cleared ...	543	70,428	660	51,153	637	57,898	726	68,961	678	75,997

Roads.

There are no railways in the Protectorate, and all transport is by road.

The roads, of which some 2,000 miles are open for wheeled traffic, are classed as Main or Trunk Roads and District Roads. The former are maintained by the Public Works Department and the latter by the District Administration.

They are suitable for general traffic and for vehicles of medium weight, but are subject to weather conditions, becoming at times impassable, particularly at river crossings, in the rainy seasons.

The road system was in process of considerable extension at the end of the year.

The principal main routes are :—

Berbera to Burao *via* Sheikh, 90 miles.
Berbera to Borama *via* Hargeisa, 184 miles.
Burao to Erigavo *via* Ainabo and Adad, 236 miles.

A lateral road of importance also connects Burao and Hargeisa *via* Oadweina—123½ miles.

The more important District Roads are :—

(1) Nogal system, 340 miles, connecting Ainabo, Bohotleh, Las Anod and Bihen.

(2) Ain Valley, 177 miles, connecting Ainabo, Hudin and Halin.

(3) Burao to Eik and the Southern boundary.

(4) Hargeisa to Gibileh and the Southern boundary.

(5) Borama to Zeilah, 140 miles.

(6) Erigavo to Baran and Las War War, 274 miles.

Motor Transport.

Motor traffic along the main commercial routes, from Berbera to Jijiga *via* Hargeisa, and Berbera to Erigavo *via* Burao, again showed an increase in 1935.

Vehicles of British and Empire manufacture were imported in greater numbers, since facilities for obtaining spare parts through agencies in Berbera and Aden have recently improved. No repair workshops or service depots have yet been established in the Protectorate.

The numbers of motor vehicles in use, other than Government vehicles, were :—

Private cars	38
Commercial cars	71

The importations of vehicles in the Protectorate during the year were :—

Private	8
Commercial	13

The following statement shows the countries of origin of the licensed motor vehicles in the Protectorate :—

British Empire	29
United States of America	77
French	2
Italian	1

Government Motor Transport.—The following transport is maintained by the Public Works Department :—

	Rate charged to Departments.
5 Morris Commercial 25 cwt. lorries	As.8 per mile

The total mileage covered in 1935 was 32,214, and the running costs amounted to 7·5 annas per ton-mile, as compared with 4·7 annas per ton-mile by hired camel transport.

Government motor transport is also maintained by the Mechanized Company of the Somaliland Camel Corps, and by the Water-Boring Party.

Posts and Telegraphs.

The headquarters of the Posts and Telegraphs Department are at Berbera.

The revenue and expenditure of the Department in respect of the last five years was as follows :—

	1935.	*1934.*	*1933.*	*1932.*	*1931.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	4,881	1,139	1,223	1,367	1,394
Expenditure ...	7,471	6,949	7,067	8,136	8,847

The Indian Post Office Act, 1898, was applied to British Somaliland by an order of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs dated 9th March 1903, and the Protectorate Post Office was transferred from the Indian Administration and constituted under the above authority on the 1st June 1903, the Protectorate becoming a member of the International Postal Union.

The operations against the Dervishes in 1903 necessitated the establishment of a number of Field Post Offices, the mails being carried by runners and camel riders. This system was maintained till 1925 for the conveyance of mails between the administrative stations in the interior, and, in the absence of railways and motor cars, proved generally a cheap, reliable and comparatively speedy service.

In 1925, a weekly motor car mail service was inaugurated, connecting Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, Erigavo, Borama and Hargeisa. Other places are still served by mail runners.

Direct mails, which are exchanged weekly with London, Aden, and Bombay, are carried by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's mail steamers, regular connexions with which are made by local contract steamers between Aden and Berbera. Letters to and from the United Kingdom are delivered within from 12 to 14 days.

The following are the denominations of postage stamps on sale in the Protectorate :—

Annas, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12.
Rupees, 1, 2, 3, 5.

The issue and payment of British postal orders were introduced in January 1905, and during the same year arrangements were made with the British and Indian Post Offices for a direct exchange of money orders. A direct Telegraph Money Order Service between the Protectorate and the United Kingdom was introduced in 1916. In 1907, the cash on delivery and insurance of parcels, and the value payable and insurance of parcels, etc., services were introduced with Great Britain and India, including Aden, and in the following year the insured letter service to Great Britain was commenced. The insured box service with Great Britain and certain other countries was introduced in 1926. The direct exchange of money orders with the Kenya and Uganda Administration, which had been introduced in 1910, was suspended in 1921 on account of exchange difficulties. Money orders to and from the East African Dependencies are exchanged through the intermediary of the Aden Post Office.

The present telegraph administration is the result of expansion and improvement of the military telegraphs used in connexion with the operations of the Somaliland Field Force in 1903, with subsequently the addition of wireless telegraphy.

A telegraph line connects Berbera with Sheikh and Burao, which are also served by telephone.

Wireless stations (1½ kilowatt) are in operation at Berbera, Borama, Burao, Erigavo and Hargeisa. The Zeilah station was closed in December 1934.

All stations are open to the public for inland and foreign telegrams. The charge on inland telegrams is two annas per word without a minimum. The charges on foreign telegrams were revised in June 1934. The principal full-rate charges are as follows :—

8 annas per word without a minimum to Aden.

Rs.1-15-0* per word without a minimum to the United Kingdom.

Rs.1-10-0* per word without a minimum to India.

* Half this rate is charged for deferred telegrams.

The Daily Letter Telegram Service was introduced in 1933.

A service of telegrams conveying Christmas and New Year wishes (Greetings Telegrams) is admissible between the Protectorate and the United Kingdom during the period from 14th December to 6th January, inclusive.

The Italian Air Company, Societa Ala Littoria, inaugurated a weekly air service during the year between Khartoum and Mogadiscio, calling at Berbera en route.

The first air mail despatch from Berbera took place on 12th December 1935. The air mail postage rates from the Protectorate to Great Britain are 1 rupee per half ounce for letters, and 8 annas for post cards.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a branch of the commercial firm of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, Bombay, accepts deposits from private individuals, cashes cheques drawn on them, and arranges the transfer of funds to the United Kingdom and elsewhere through a branch of the firm at Aden.

The Government Savings Bank continues to gain ground. The rate of interest paid remains at 2½ per cent., and depositors from all classes of the community are taking advantage of the facilities offered. The number of depositors increased in the year from 145 to 205.

Currency.

The monetary unit is the Government of India rupee at one shilling and sixpence. Rupees are legal tender for the payment of any amount and Government of India subsidiary coinage is legal tender for the payment of sums not in excess of five rupees. India Government Currency Notes are in circulation.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial standard of weights and measures is in force. The Indian and Somali traders also use certain of the weights and measures in force in British India.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

A general programme of small works was carried out during the year, but no major works were undertaken.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There is no Judicial or Legal Department in the Protectorate, but in 1935 a Legal Secretary was appointed whose duties are to advise the Governor on matters of law in all Court cases, to act as Registrar of the Protectorate Court, to advise the Governor on the legal aspects of all Government business, to draft legislation and to assist generally in the work of the Secretariat. The Criminal Courts consist of the Protectorate Court, District Courts of the first class, and District Courts of the second class. The Governor and Secretary to the Government are the judges of the Protectorate Court. During the absence of the Governor or the Secretary to the Government, certain Protectorate Court cases may be tried by a District Officer specially empowered under Ordinance No. 3 of 1933. District Courts of the first class are held by District Officers and such other officers as the Governor may so empower. District Courts of the second class are held by those officers so empowered by the Governor. The District Courts are empowered by law to try all cases in which natives are parties except for sedition, treason or offences punishable with death. Cases beyond the jurisdiction of the District Courts, or possessing features which make a trial by the Protectorate Court desirable, are committed by the District Court for trial by the Protectorate Court. In cases where appeals lie from judgments of District Courts, the appeal is to the Protectorate Court sitting as a Court of Appeal, which is the final Appellate Court in the Protectorate.

The law of the Protectorate is:—

(*a*) Coded law, i.e., the Indian Penal Code as applied by the Somaliland Administration of Criminal Justice Ordinance (Chapter 4 of the Revised Edition of the Laws), and Local Ordinances.

(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan law.

A stricter legal control is now exercised. In past years, murder and homicide among the natives were dealt with under tribal custom, but such crimes are now tried by the Criminal Courts.

In addition to Criminal and Civil cases under (*a*), tribal cases are investigated and judged by District Courts under a mixture of tribal custom, Mohammedan law and Indian law. This work forms the great bulk of the District Officers' work, since the Somali's inherent love of litigation and refusal to accept any decision except from the highest court of appeal lead to much work of a trivial nature which, if neglected, may result in inter-tribal fighting. The Kadis deal with cases falling entirely under Mohammedan law, and Courts of Akils or Elders have been set up to deal with the less important and contentious of tribal cases.

Crime.

The following summary shows the amount of crime in the Protectorate for 1935, as compared with the previous year :—

	1935.	*1934.*
Convictions for murder	4	1
Persons executed	3	—
Offences against the person	195	254
Offences against property	224	253
Other offences	626	747
Dia cases (inter-tribal killings settled under tribal custom)	6	7

Police.

The Somaliland Civil Police are constituted under the Somaliland Civil Police Ordinance. The force is under the control of the Governor, and has an establishment of four European officers, four Somali officers, and some 550 other ranks. Rank and file in stations other than Berbera are under the charge of District Officers.

Garrison duties are carried out by the force at Berbera, Erigavo, Zeilah, and Borama. The police are liable to serve as a military force when called upon by the Governor to discharge military duties.

Prisons.

The established prisons in the Protectorate are the Central Prison in Berbera and five District Prisons at Zeilah, Burao, Hargeisa, Borama, and Erigavo, respectively.

The Central Prison accommodates all convicts sentenced to terms of imprisonment exceeding six months, in addition to all prisoners convicted in the Berbera District.

The District Prisons accommodate prisoners convicted within Districts and sentenced to imprisonment for six months or less.

Since 1930 the Commandant of Police has been Director of Prisons with powers of inspection of all prisons in the Protectorate, and, further, with power to appoint a European officer, subject to the approval of the Governor, to be in responsible charge of the Berbera Prison for the purpose of carrying out the regulations made under the Prison Discipline Ordinance, 1918. The administration of District Prisons is in the hands of District Officers.

The Central Prison occupies an area of some 6,700 square yards, the whole being surrounded by a stone wall from 11 to 17 feet high. Accommodation is provided for male, female, and juvenile convicts. In addition to the usual wards and cells, the prison is

equipped with a dispensary, two sick wards capable of accommodating four lying-in cases, a workshop, and the usual offices. The prison is lighted by electricity.

Committals to the Central Prison during 1935, as compared with the three preceding years, were as follows :—

Year.	*For want of bail or for debt.*	*For penal imprisonment.*
1935	7	201
1934	6	216
1933	Nil	250
1932	7	395

The bulk of the labour provided by the prisoners is unskilled, and is used on work of public utility such as road-making, quarrying stones, watering trees in Government grounds, etc.

A certain amount of skilled labour is carried out in the Central Prison, where long-sentence prisoners are taught to manufacture and repair articles of use to other departments. The manufacture of cane furniture for the Public Works Department is the main industry.

The Central Prison is visited at least once in every two months by the Visiting Justices.

Section 2 of the Administration of Criminal Justice (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931, provides that no young person under the age of 16 years shall be sentenced to imprisonment, if the court considers that suitable punishment can be imposed in some other way by placing on probation, or fine or corporal punishment, or committal to a place of detention, or otherwise. Local conditions do not permit of the institution of a regular probation system.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-two Ordinances were enacted during 1935. Amongst the more important enactments were :—

The Prevention of Rabies Ordinance (No. 6 of 1935), which deals with the prevention and circumscribing of outbreaks of rabies.

The Native Passenger Vessels Ordinance (No. 9 of 1935), which allows for the inspection of such vessels and lays down rules to ensure that they are not overcrowded.

The Emigration to Foreign Countries Ordinance (No. 13 of 1935), which imposes certain restrictions on emigration of natives.

The Civil Police (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 14 of 1935), which provides for the payment in certain cases to his heirs of the gratuity earned by a police officer who dies in the service.

The Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles Death or Disablement Gratuities Ordinance (No. 16 of 1935), which provides for gratuities to be paid to Somali members of the Somaliland Camel Corps who die or who are disabled in the performance of military duty.

The Arms Traffic (Amendment) Ordinance 1935 (No. 22 of 1935), which lays down the penalties for breaches of the Arms Traffic Ordinance No. 3 of 1931.

Factory, etc., Legislation.

There is no factory legislation or legislative provision for sickness, old age, etc., in the Protectorate.

Compensation for accidents is provided for under the Employers' Liability Ordinance (Chapter 60 of the Revised Edition of the Laws).

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The finances of the Protectorate maintained in 1935 a level similar to that of the previous year. A small drop in the volume of exports was counterbalanced by an increase in imports and Customs revenue as a whole showed a small increase as compared with 1934.

The Italo-Ethiopian dispute (see Chapter XVI) had no appreciable effect on the trade of the Protectorate up to the end of the year.

No new forms of taxation were introduced in 1935 and preferential tariffs in favour of Empire goods continued in force.

Revenue.

The revenue from all sources amounted to £118,976, an increase of £12,807 as compared with the previous year. This increase was represented by grants from the Colonial Development Fund to the extent of £13,767, to finance Water Boring Operations (see Chapter VI).

The following table shows the principal sources of revenue for the years 1931-5.

	Customs.	*Licences and Taxes.*	*Court Fees and Government Services.*	*Other.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£	£
1931 ...	63,347	14,484	11,585	12,477*	101,893
1932 ...	63,740	15,055	14,131	9,968*	102,894
1933 ...	73,318	22,347	10,645	5,576*	111,886
1934 ...	71,279	20,111	10,737	4,042*	106,169
1935 ...	72,093	16,360	12,444	18,079*	118,976

* Includes receipts from the Colonial Development Fund.

Public Debt.

The net sum due by the Protectorate to the Imperial Treasury on 31st December, 1935, was £236,000. This sum represents the total of loans-in-aid of civil expenditure for the period 1921 to 1934.

No loan-in-aid was received in 1935. Loans-in-aid are subject to repayment with interest as and when the finances of the Protectorate permit. No repayment has yet been made.

In addition to the loan-in-aid, the Protectorate is in receipt of an annual free grant-in-aid of military expenditure. The grant paid in 1935 was £71,000 and the total sum granted since 1st April 1921, is £767,000.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year amounted to £187,578 and exceeded that of 1934 by £19,922. Expenditure to the extent of £10,850 was required for special precautionary measures necessitated by the Italo-Ethiopian dispute and under the Military head £4,899 was required for the relief of the Nyasaland Contingent of the Somaliland Camel Corps and £2,491 for Extraordinary expenditure.

£10,797 was expended in the year upon Water Boring Operations financed by grants from the Colonial Development Fund.

The following table shows the expenditure for the years 1931-5.

	Civil.	*Military.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£
1931	135,671*	50,091	185,762
1932	109,328*	46,912	156,240
1933	114,059*	39,761	153,820
1934	126,588*	41,068	167,656
1935	132,980*	54,598	187,578

* Includes expenditure from the Colonial Development Fund grants.

Financial Position on 31st December, 1935.

	£	£
Surplus on 1st January, 1935 ...		18,006
Deficit between Civil Revenue and Expenditure	9,097	
Deficit between Military Revenue and Expenditure	48,655	
		57,752
Deficit		39,746
Expenditure upon Special Precautionary Measures. Civil ...	5,478	
Expenditure upon Special Precautionary Measures. Military ...	5,372	
		10,850
		50,596
Grant-in-Aid		71,000
Surplus at 31st December, 1935 ...		20,404

Customs Duties.

Authority:—The Customs Ordinance (Chapter 44, Revised Edition of the Laws) and amending Ordinances 1930 to 1935. The Alcoholic Liquors Ordinance (Chapter 29, Revised Edition of the Laws), and amending Ordinances 1930 to 1933.

The Customs duties are classified under two heads: (*a*) Specific Duties; (*b*) *Ad Valorem* Duties.

The value at which *ad valorem* duty is assessed is: (*a*) in accordance with the Tariff which is approved yearly on 1st April by His Excellency the Governor and which is open for inspection at each Custom House; (*b*) where no provision is made in the Tariff (i) in the case of imports, the wholesale cash price less trade discount, for which goods of the like kind and quality are sold or are capable of being sold, at the time and place of importation, without any abatement or deduction except the amount of the duties payable on the importation thereof; and (ii) in the case of exports, the prevailing market price at the port of exportation as ascertained monthly by the Treasurer and Chief of Customs or as manifested on exporters' invoices.

Tariff.

Imports.

Specific Duties:—

	Ordinary Rate.			*Preferential Rate.*		
	Rs.	as.	ps.	Rs.	as.	ps.
Alcoholic Liquors, per gallon ...	13	3	0	12	0	0
Rice, per 168 lb.	2	12	0	2	8	0
Sugar, per 28 lb.	1	0	0	0	12	0
Dates, per 168 lb.	1	12	0	—		
Grey Sheeting, per 750 yds. ...	77	0	0	38	8	0
White Long Cloth, per 40 yds. ...	5	8	0	4	0	0
Matches per standard box ...	0	0	4	0	0	3
Matches per large box ...	0	0	8	0	0	6
Currants, Greek, per cwt. ...	1	0	0	—		
Rubber soled footwear, with leather upper parts, per dozen pairs	22	0	0	6	0	0

Ad Valorem Duties :—

Rice (certain varieties), building materials, mats, matting and native pottery, naphthaline, fresh, dried and preserve fruit and vegetables, fresh and preserved provisions, and articles of European attire ...	20 per cent.	10 per cent.
Live stock and all other goods, with certain exceptions	25 per cent.	15 per cent.

Exports.

Live stock and local produce with certain exceptions	10 per cent.

The preferential rates of duty are extended to articles produced or manufactured in and consigned from the British Empire.

The following are the customs ports and frontier customs stations at which the above import and export duties are collected :—

Customs Ports:—Berbera, Zeilah, Las Khoreh, Heis, and Elayu.

Frontier Customs Stations:—Zeilah, Elayu, Hargeisa, Gibileh, and Borama (goods in transit only).

Subject to certain exceptions, a rebate of half of the Protectorate rates is allowed on all goods exported from Zeilah, and two-thirds on all goods imported at Zeilah for consumption within the administrative district of Zeilah.

Goods in Transit.

(*a*) *Transit duty*.—On all goods imported in transit to and from Ethiopia, 1 per cent. *ad valorem*.

(*b*) *Valuation*.—The value of goods imported in transit for purposes of transit duty is the wholesale cash price, less trade discount, for which goods of the like kind are sold or are capable of being sold at the time and place of importation without any abatement or deduction except the amount of the duties payable on the importation thereof.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

All land in the Protectorate except in proclaimed townships may be said to be vested in the Somali tribes. Outside the townships no individual title to land is recognized (except in the case of a few small religious settlements) nor is any sectional title to any particular area recognized as giving any particular section of the tribe

an exclusive right to that area. It is the habit of certain sections always to graze in the same area and this in practice gives them a prescriptive title to that area, but theoretically and legally individuals of other sections have the right to enter such areas and to use the grazing as necessity dictates. In the western part of the Protectorate, where large areas of ground are under cultivation, the tribal title has been restricted to the extent that the right of individual cultivators to the enjoyment of the area cultivated is recognized, but only so long as effective cultivation is continued.

Government has taken powers to expropriate land for public purposes, on payment of compensation for damage done thereby to an individual or section. Land so expropriated becomes Crown Land.

The township areas are divided into two classes:—

(*a*) old-established towns on the coast, such as Berbera and Zeilah; and

(*b*) recently-established towns in the interior.

In class (*a*), the matter has been allowed to remain undefined. In practice, disputes as to ownership seldom arise.

In class (*b*), Government has introduced legislation to give to individuals a valid title to ground. All townships are of such recent growth that, except in five small plots in Hargeisa, no claim to freehold has been established, and leases or temporary occupation licences have been given to such of the present occupiers as wish to secure a legal title to their land.

Rainfall.

The rainfall was up to the average and fairly well distributed in most areas, with the result that grazing was adequate throughout the Protectorate, and Government was not called upon to take any abnormal measures for the relief of destitution.

Political Situation.

The political situation has necessarily been overshadowed by the Italo-Ethiopian conflict, which necessitated the taking of precautionary measures to prevent incursions of alien tribes into the Protectorate. These measures were completely successful, and the general attitude of British protected tribes towards the belligerents has up to the present been one of comparative indifference. Those whose grazing grounds south of the frontier are likely to be overrun by the armed forces of either side were naturally apprehensive, and they were advised to withdraw temporarily to British territory pending a resumption of more stable conditions in Ethiopia. A fair proportion had done so by the end of the year and the length of their stay within British territory will necessarily be determined by the grazing and water facilities available. The prospects in this respect are favourable.

Berbera District.—Trade has remained steady and indications of an all round improvement were only partially realized. Towards the end of the year trade in skins became much brisker and prices rose in sympathy with an increased demand from Europe and America.

Burao District.—Increased patrolling of the frontier led to the capture and punishment of a number of notorious *barad* (armed robbers), and the Ain and Nogal areas were finally cleared of these pests.

The Habr Yunis whose main grazing grounds are in Ethiopian territory still do their best to avoid settling awards made against them in inter-tribal cases, but this state of affairs is likely to show an improvement in the forthcoming year.

Trade has shown some general improvement and the commercial development of the Nogal area continues to show satisfactory progress.

Hargeisa District.—Arrangements were made for a meeting to be held at Haradiget in May between representatives of this Protectorate and of the Ethiopian Province of Harar to settle outstanding inter-tribal Somali cases. This meeting became abortive owing to Ethiopian inaction, and this had a slightly unsettling effect on the British Somali tribes concerned. Political conditions were, apart from this, satisfactory throughout the year, and trade showed general improvement, particularly in ghee, sorghum and maize.

Erigavo District.—The tribes in this District no longer graze beyond the frontier and they have in consequence been unaffected by the Italo-Ethiopian hostilities. Good prices were realized for gum, but trade in skins was disappointing until towards the end of the year.

Zeilah District.—There has been considerable dissension amongst the Gadabursi owing to the rival claims of Ughaz Robleh Nur and Sultan Omar Ali to the paramount chieftainship of the tribe. The former is recognized as chief in Ethiopia and the latter in Somaliland. The situation in this respect was improved as the result of an Anglo-Ethiopian Conference at Borama, but it is still unsatisfactory.

The joint Anglo-Ethiopian trial of those concerned in the murder of Herr Beitz, an Assistant Commissioner in the Ethiopian Section of the British Somaliland-Ethiopia Boundary Commission, was concluded in March. The death penalty was not imposed, and the sentences varied from 18 months' to 14 years' imprisonment.

British Somaliland-Ethiopia Boundary Commission.—The Commission completed its work in the field, and left for Addis Ababa in February 1935.

Appendix

List of Publications relating to British Somaliland

	£ s. d.	*To be purchased from*
Laws of the Somaliland Protectorate—Revised Edition	1 0 0	The Treasurer, Berbera, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Notices, Proclamations, Regulations and Rules in force on the 30th June 1930	1 0 0	The Treasurer, Berbera, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Supplement to the Laws of the Somaliland Protectorate, 1930–32	1 0 0	The Treasurer, Berbera, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Report on the Somaliland Agricultural and Geological Department for 1927 and 1928 ...	0 5 0	Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Somaliland Annual Geological Report, 1929 ...	0 2 0	Crown Agents for the Colonies.
The Geology of British Somaliland, by W. A. Macfadyen, M.C., M.A., Ph.D. (Cantab.), F.G.S., F.R.G.S., M.Inst.P.T. (Part I of the Geology and Palæontology of British Somaliland) ...	0 12 6	Crown Agents for the Colonies or through any Bookseller.

British Somaliland (Drake-Brockman), London, 1917.

Somaliland (Hamilton), London, 1911.

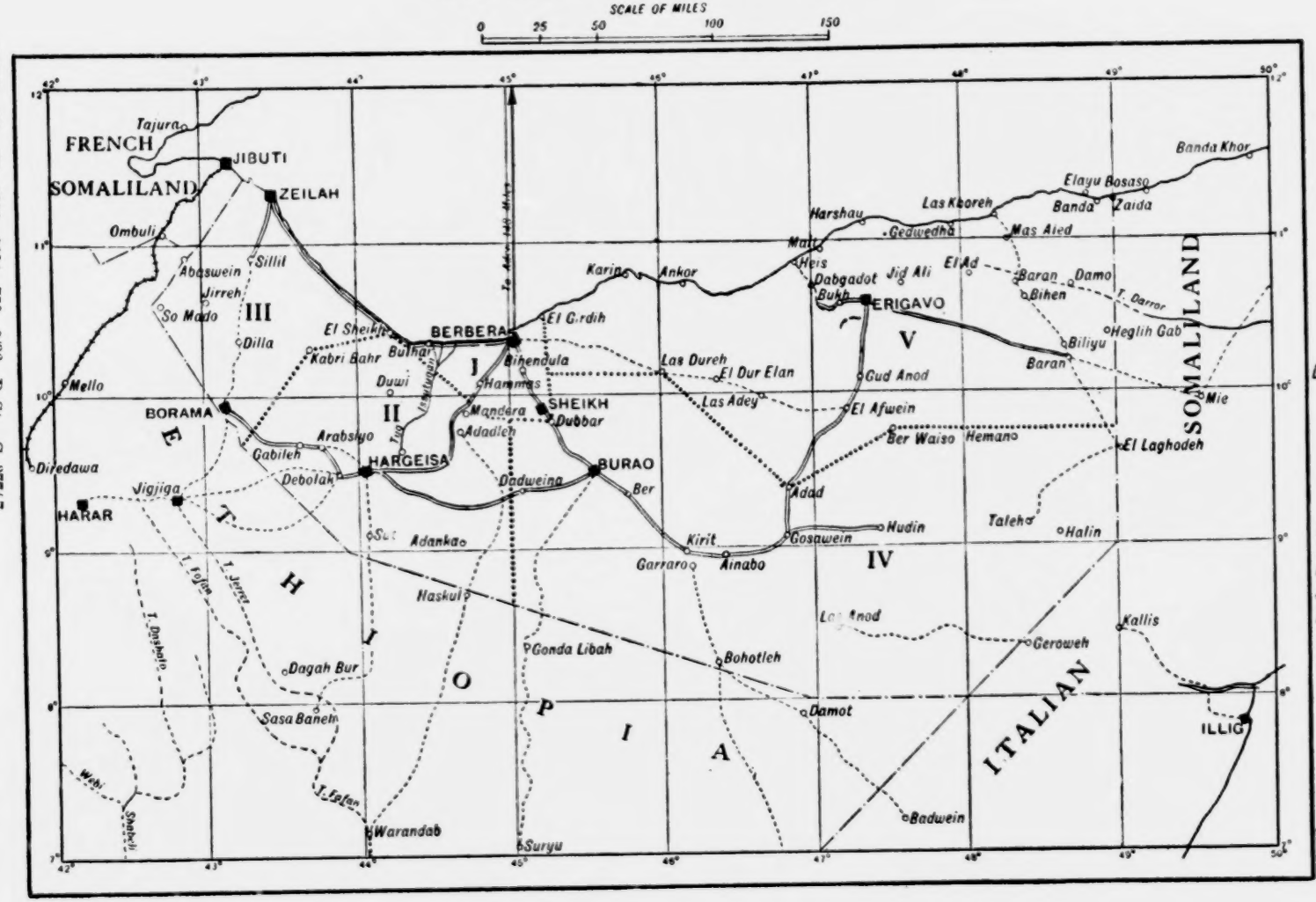
The Mad Mullah of Somaliland (Jardine), London, 1923.

Sun, Sand and Somals (Rayne), London, 1921.

Seventeen Trips in Somaliland (Swayne), London.

Under the Flag and Somali Coast Stories (Walsh), London.

BRITISH SOMALILAND.



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MIGRATION.

Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*)

MALTA.

Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 11*d.*).
Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 9*d.*).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3717.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4*s.* (4*s.* 4*d.*).
Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3*d.* (3½*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

KENYA.

Native Affairs Department Annual Report for 1932. 3*s.* (3*s.* 4*d.*).
Report by the Financial Commissioner (Lord Moyne) on Certain Questions in Kenya. May, 1932. [Cmd. 4093.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

KENYA, UGANDA, AND THE TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Railway Rates and Finance. Report by Mr. Roger Gibb, September, 1932. [Cmd. 4235.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 7*d.*).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 8*d.*).
East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933-34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commission, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

SWAZILAND.

Financial and Economic Situation. Report of Commission. [Cmd. 4114.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 9*d.*).

MALAYA.

Report of Brigadier-General Sir S. H. Wilson, C.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

SEYCHELLES.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, July, 1933. [Colonial No. 90.] 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

MAURITIUS.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, December, 1931. [Cmd. 4034.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

WEST INDIES.

Report of the Closer Union Commission. (Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.) [Cmd. 4383.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).
Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Secondary and Primary Education in Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands, and Windward Islands. [Colonial No. 79.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commissioner, March, 1934. [Cmd. 4586.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

BRITISH GUIANA.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, June, 1931. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

THE LEEWARD ISLANDS AND ST. LUCIA.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission, October, 1931. [Cmd. 3996.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

PALESTINE.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development, by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. [Cmd. 3686.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).
Appendix to Report, containing Maps. [Cmd. 3687.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 3*d.*).

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF SOMALILAND FOR 1936

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Protectorate of British Somaliland has for its northern boundary about 450 miles of coast-line on the Gulf of Aden, and extends from Loyi Ada (Hadu), longitude 43° 15′ East, as far as the forty-ninth degree of East longitude, close to the town of Banda Ziada.

The Protectorate marches with Italian Somaliland from Banda Ziada to a point in latitude 8° North; thence with Ethiopia to near Jalelo, and with French Somaliland from near Jalelo to Loyi Ada (Hadu) on the coast.

The area of the Protectorate is about 68,000 square miles. Topographically it consists of the following four main features, extending southwards from the coast-line:—

(*a*) An almost bare, gently rising, alluvial coastal plain ranging in breadth from about half a mile in the east to about 60 miles in the west: this is succeeded by

(*b*) a maritime plain, with a similar slope, on which are numerous broken ridges of limestone and hills of igneous rock, and which varies in breadth from a mile or two in

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the east and west to about 30 miles in the middle. The native name for both the coastal and maritime plains is *Guban*.

(*c*) A vertical escarpment of limestone about 2,000 feet thick, resting on igneous rocks which, at the bottom of the scarp, form foothills and ridges up to 3,500 feet in height. The escarpment (native name *Golis*) trends roughly east and west, and is pronounced from the eastern boundary to a little west of the middle line of the Protectorate. Further west, it is largely replaced by ridges of igneous rock.

(*d*) From the top of the scarp, a long, wide, and almost featureless plateau (native name *Ogo*) slopes gently downwards to the south-east into the Haud, a belt of thorn wilderness and pasturages, extending into Ethiopian and Italian territory. Each of these four main features has its characteristic vegetation, dependent on climate and rainfall.

The maritime plain, with a hot climate and small rainfall, supports in places frankincense and myrrh trees. The ridges and foothills near the base of the escarpment, with a cooler climate and larger rainfall, are, especially in the eastern half of the country, partly covered with trees of *Acacia Verek*. On the top of the escarpment, at altitudes between 4,500 and 6,000 feet, a species of box (*Buxus Hildebrandtii*) is very common, especially in the Erigavo District. Some thirty miles west of Sheikh, this species flourishes on granitic hills at altitudes down to 3,500 feet.

At altitudes above 6,000 feet on top of the escarpment are patches of cedar (*Juniperus Procera*). In one locality, north-west of Erigavo, where the escarpment reaches a height of 7,500 feet, these trees form a small forest, and they have also been found at intervals almost up to the south-western boundary.

On the interior plateau, the average rainfall ranges from about 20 inches a year in the west to about 10 inches in the east and 8 inches in the south and south-east. The plateau consists in part of an open savannah of thorny acacias, in part of grass-covered plains; and though, over the greater part of it, the rainfall is low and the grazing is on the whole somewhat indifferent, this part of the Protectorate supports the bulk of the stock—camels, sheep, goats and cattle—on which most of the native population subsist.

On parts of the maritime plain, among the foothills of the escarpment, and, especially in the west, on several flats between the ridges to the north of the main escarpment, are areas of *Sansevieria Ehrenbergii* (*Hig*), a plant which is somewhat similar to sisal, and of which the fibre is considered to be of some commercial value.

Owing to the scanty water supply, the camel is the animal most suited to the country, but cattle thrive, especially in the hills, and sheep and goats do excellently so long as the rainfall is up to the average.

The chief ports are Berbera, Zeilah, and Las Khoreh.

There are no hotels of any sort in the Protectorate. There are furnished rest-houses at Berbera, Burao, and Hargeisa, but only those at Berbera and Hargeisa provide messing facilities. There are no European private residents in British Somaliland, and it is necessary for all intending visitors to obtain permission from the Secretary to the Government to enter the Protectorate. It is essential for such visitors to arrive completely self-contained, unless they have made arrangements privately for accommodation with officers of the Protectorate.

Climate.

Somaliland has a small but fairly regular rainfall. The dry season lasts from December to March, during which period there is practically no rain. The big rains fall during April and May and they are succeeded by the south-west monsoon (called locally the *kharif*), which blows from June till October —the hottest period of the year. The *kharif* is very trying to Europeans, particularly on the coast, where the heat and dust make concentrated work difficult.

On the higher ground in the interior the heat is at no time intolerable, and the nights are generally cool.

From November to March the climate is quite pleasant, the heat on the coast being tempered by the sea breeze.

The rainfalls in the country are very local, and consequently there is often considerable variation in local conditions as to grazing, rainpools, etc.

The meteorological statistics are as follows:—

Station.	*Total Rainfall.*	*Mean Maximum.*	*Mean Minimum.*	*Absolute Maximum.*	*Absolute Minimum.*	*Total Rainfall for previous four years.*			
	1936.					*1935.*	*1934.*	*1933.*	*1932.*
	Inches	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Berbera ...	2·43	92·6	77·6	110·0	64·0	6·20	1·70	0·86	2·20
Sheikh ...	17·76	70·4	47·6	80·0	35·0	16·58	18·17	17·07	18·79
Burao ...	9·16	86·2	63·6	97·0	50·0	7·26	5·67	5·58	5·58
Hargeisa...	19·26	85·0	56·2	97·0	35·0	18·26	15·19	12·42	15·28
Zeilah ...	0·50	91·1	76·6	108·0	63·0	3·29	5·46	2·05	8·12
Borama ...	26·52	82·3	58·2	94·0	38·0	25·99	18·37	15·90	25·99
Erigavo ...	13·19	77·8	50·3	86·0	31·0	13·53	12·53	9·81	11·07

N.B.—Highest velocity of wind recorded in Berbera during the year 1936 was 63 miles per hour on 24th June.

History.

Prior to 1884 the administration of the Somali Coast had been in the hands of the Egyptian Government. Upon its collapse in 1884, a Protectorate was proclaimed by Great Britain, and the boundaries were settled by agreements with France, Italy, and Ethiopia. Until 1898 the Protectorate was administered by the Resident at Aden as a Dependency of the Government of India. In that year it was transferred to the charge of the Foreign Office, and on 1st April, 1905, to the Colonial Office.

From 1901 to 1920 the history of the Protectorate is largely a history of campaigns against Mohammed bin Abdulla Hassan, the "Mad Mullah." In 1901, 1902, and 1903, expeditions were sent against the Mullah, and in January, 1904, a crushing defeat was inflicted on him at Jidballeh. He then retired into Italian territory and claimed Italian protection. An agreement was made between him and the Italian Government, but the Mullah soon disregarded this agreement and commenced further aggressive actions against the tribes under British protection.

In 1908, a policy of coastal concentration was adopted. In March, 1910, all troops were withdrawn from the country, except for small garrisons at the three ports of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeilah. This policy did not prove a success, and in 1912-3 the strict coastal concentration was abandoned and administration in the interior was gradually resumed. From 1914 desultory fighting continued until 1920, when a combined attack with land and air forces scattered the Mullah and his followers, and captured all his forts and possessions. The Mullah fled into Ethiopia, where he died in February, 1921.

In recent years, conditions have been peaceful with the exception of inter-tribal cattle raids both in the Protectorate and outside its borders. As indulgence in these is the hereditary pastime of all Somalis, they need not be regarded very seriously, since they can be checked, and are being checked, by extension of administration.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Protectorate is administered by the Governor and, in his absence, by the Secretary to the Government. There is neither Executive nor Legislative Council. The powers of the Governor are defined in the Somaliland Orders in Council, 1929 to 1935.

Departments of Government.

The Governor's office and Secretariat are at Sheikh, and the headquarters of the Treasury and Customs, Police and Prisons, Medical, Posts and Telegraphs, and Public Works Departments are at Berbera. The Veterinary and Agricultural Officer is stationed at Burao.

District Administration.

For administrative purposes the Protectorate has been divided into five districts, each of which is in charge of a District Officer. The five districts are Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, and Zeilah. The headquarters of the Zeilah District are at Borama.

Military Garrison.

The Military Garrison of the Protectorate consists of the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, with headquarters at Burao and a detachment at Hargeisa.

III.—POPULATION.

The Somali population is estimated at 344,700. According to the non-native census taken in April, 1931, the non-native population was 2,683, including 68 Europeans, 520 Indians, 1,614 Arabs, 100 Ethiopians, and 258 Nyasaland natives of the Somaliland Camel Corps.

IV.—HEALTH.

The staff of the Medical Department of the Protectorate consists of a Senior Medical Officer, four Medical Officers, three Assistant Surgeons, three Sub-Assistant Surgeons, two clerks and a subordinate staff.

Well equipped hospitals for natives only are established at Berbera, Burao, Hargeisa, Borama and Erigavo with smaller ones at Sheikh and Zeilah, and a Dispensary at Las Khoreh. There is no hospital accommodation for Europeans and only a limited number of beds for Asiatics, which are in the Berbera Native hospital.

A total of 49,147 out-patients and 2,713 in-patients were treated during 1936 as compared with 48,951 and 3,125 respectively in the previous year. The fall in the in-patient figure is largely accounted for by a reduction in Berbera, but with the exception of that hospital, which serves a floating population, the available accommodation is fully utilized.

Malaria again occurred in epidemic form in the Ain and Nogal areas. The type of fever among the natives in these epidemics is severe, but the outbreaks tend to be localized to certain areas and can be readily controlled.

The incidence of relapsing fever in Burao has attained serious proportions, 618 cases having been treated there during the year. Control is difficult as the permanent buildings in the town are old and badly floored, but conditions are being gradually improved as far as possible; also, with the changing of the site of the large settlement area where the natives live in temporary structures, a considerable reduction in the case incidence can be expected.

Smallpox remains endemic, especially in the Burao District, but there has been a reduction in numbers of cases this year. In all there were 152 cases with 7 deaths as compared with 243 cases and 23 deaths in 1935.

Berbera Lunatic Asylum is built in the form of a hollow square with cells and offices enclosing a space, the centre of which is occupied by a shade pavilion for the inmates. All the confinement cells are of suitable size and there is adequate office and treatment accommodation. There were ten patients remaining on the 1st January, 1936, nine were admitted during the year, six discharged as cured or improved, and one died.

Leprosy patients are treated in a compulsory segregation camp in Berbera. The buildings are permanent masonry structures with cement floors and adequate ventilation. The patients do no set work but they maintain their own compound and the roads leading to it. There were 29 patients on the 1st January, 1936; seven were admitted during the year, one died, and four absconded.

There have been no cases of rabies in 1936, but there still remains the danger from rabid animals, particularly on the western frontier. A stock of anti-rabic vaccine is held, and all cases in which there is any suspicion are given a course of protective injections.

As no European dentist is available in the Protectorate all European and non-European officers are permitted to visit Aden for dental treatment at Government expense. Such treatment is subject to an officer obtaining a medical certificate to the effect that it is necessary and cannot be postponed without detriment to his health.

V.—HOUSING.

The normal Somali dwelling is the *gurgi*, a dome-shaped hut constructed of pliable stick framework and covered with mats. The *gurgi* is movable and can be readily dismantled and packed on camels when a change of ground for any reason becomes necessary.

In the towns the trading Somali and the poorer class of Indian may sometimes be found living in an *arish* (wattle and daub hut).

The indiscriminate setting up of *gurgis* and other temporary dwellings within townships is not permitted, and is controlled by the District Officers, who may set aside areas in which such temporary habitations may be installed.

Government officers are housed in well-built stone and plaster houses. Berbera is the only town with a pipe-borne water supply available for public use, but water is laid on to Government quarters in Sheikh and Burao. In other stations, the sanitary arrangements are of a primitive, though satisfactory, character.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

The Agricultural and Geological Department was abolished in 1934, and agriculture is now under the general supervision of the Veterinary and Agricultural Officer. Agriculture is chiefly confined to the western half of the Protectorate, *viz.*, the Hargeisa and Borama Districts, in a strip of country about eighty miles long and ranging in width from two to fifteen miles, with an average rainfall of about seventeen inches. Latterly it has been extending in parts of the plateau country in the centre of the Protectorate at Adadleh and between Hahi and Oadweina.

There are no plantations owned or managed by Europeans in the country, and all efforts at improving native agriculture have to be carried out by the Government. The main crops produced are sorghum and maize, but gram, barley, and wheat (an Ethiopian variety) are also grown.

No locusts swarms of any magnitude visited the Protectorate during 1936.

Water-boring.

In the Tug Wajaleh area two storage tanks were erected at the beginning of the year. The necessary piping was laid down and a trough of concrete and cement, capable of holding 1,000 gallons, was built and connected to the tanks. The installation was handed over to the Public Works Department in April.

In regard to supplies at Ainabo, arrangements were made to have the new shaft sunk at least to the depth of the bottom of the old well, the old well thoroughly cleaned out and a protecting wall placed round the mouth, and to have periodic tests made of the rate of supply in the new shaft.

The old well at Garrero was cleaned out and deepened, the supply thereby being increased from a few gallons to 200 gallons an hour. This well also was protected by a low wall.

A scheme was drawn up for improving the supplies by administrative action at El Dab. A report was made on the possibilities of obtaining a permanent supply at Bohotleh by deep well-sinking.

Estimates were prepared showing the details and costs of a suitable installation at Ainabo.

A report was prepared giving the results achieved during the tour, and a programme of work for the ensuing tour was drawn up. As agreed upon with the consulting engineers, it was recommended that an experienced well-sinker should be appointed to the scheme, his duties to comprise (*a*) sinking shallow wells chiefly in the eastern part of the Protectorate in localities where either no water now exists or present supplies are inaccessible, (*b*) training a native staff which will ultimately be at the disposal of administrative officers. Arrangements

were made for expert advice, and, where necessary, the assistance of the well-sinker, to be given to administrative officers in the improvement of existing well supplies.

The members of the water-boring scheme were on leave from May until September. The new engineer and the well-sinker did not, however, arrive until the end of October. Since their return, the motor transport has been more or less reconditioned. The well-sinker, after gaining necessary experience of local conditions while attached to the driller, has been engaged in sinking two wells on the native-town side of the nullah at Burao with the object of obtaining a sufficient water supply for the natives in the town, which will be quite distinct from the supply to the European quarters and Government establishments on the other side. A supply has already been found in one of the wells and this will be tested further by the use of the hand-rig. On completion of these two wells, he has been started on well-sinking at Kirrit in the area of the main gypsum series and of the collapsed gypsum depressions.

The driller completed a bore-hole at Hargeisa to 202 feet. Water was struck at 19-24 feet and again at 77-85 feet, and the proved supply after prolonged bailing and pumping tests is not less than 1,000 gallons an hour. An effort is being made by him to obtain, on another site, a supply, exclusive of that from the top stratum, which will of itself be in the neighbourhood of 1,000 gallons an hour. The second hole was nearing completion at the end of the year.

Veterinary.

No widespread outbreaks of disease have occurred.

In spite of the prevalence of rinderpest in Ethiopia local preventive measures have kept the Protectorate free of this disease.

Cases of foot and mouth disease and of pleuro-pneumonia of cattle have occurred in the Borama and Hargeisa districts, probably due to infection brought over from Ethiopia.

Contagious pleuro-pneumonia caused heavy mortality amongst the native flocks of goats.

There have been no cases of trypanosomiasis (native name: *surra*) in the camels of the Somaliland Camel Corps, but native herds have suffered great losses from this disease. Injections with Naganol continue to prove popular and efficacious, but the cause of the disease has not yet been definitely established.

Sarcoptic mange of sheep and camels has been prevalent, and the treatment of this disease with coal tar disinfectant has proved popular.

Occasional cases of horse sickness or anthrax have been seen. No cases of rabies has been confirmed though existence of rabies in the game area is most probable.

The numbers of native stock are estimated to be 1,500,000 camels, 2,500,000 sheep, 2,000,000 goats, 30,000 cattle, 2,000 donkeys and 1,000 horses.

Fisheries.

Although tropical fish of every variety, such as shark, great and small rays, barracuda and other sphyraenae, durab or wolf-herring, dolphins, sea perches, sword-fish, rock cod, different species of sardinella, tunny, mullets, horse-mackerel, king-fish, crawfish, and bêche-de-mer (trepang) are abundant, yet the few natives engaged in the fishery industry use only a handline with a single hook for trolling and bottom fishing and a light casting net to obtain bait. There is no co-operation between them and they sail out in their canoes to the fishing grounds only when dire necessity compels them. If one is exceptionally successful and realizes a substantial profit, he ceases to labour for as many days as it would have taken him to accumulate this sum from his average daily earnings. Consequently, the local supply of fish on sale in the towns is considerably less than the actual demand. A few passing shark-fishing dhows, manned by Arabs, Sudanese, and Dankalis, occasionally stop at the ports to net sharks in the harbour and in the deep sea. After completing the operation of salting the fins for the Chinese market and the flesh for the consumption of their countrymen, and extracting the "*seefa*" or liver oil which is used for caulking native craft, they resume their voyage.

Since foreign dhows have been excluded from fishing within the French and Italian territorial waters, a number of native smacks have been withdrawn from the mother-of-pearl and trochee shell fisheries. Within the limit to which the divers are now restricted, they cannot collect a sufficient quantity to realize a profit. Although the gamble of obtaining a valuable gem after opening thousands of mother-of-pearl shells always will be an incentive to engage in the industry, yet it is from the sale of the empty shells that the divers derive their maintenance.

Licences to fish and to dive for pearls are obligatory upon all fishermen other than natives of British Somaliland or persons ordinarily resident therein. The rates are Rs.50 and Rs.100 per annum respectively. These licences were introduced by the Fisheries Ordinance, 1934, to regulate the activities of visiting foreign fishermen in the territorial waters of the Protectorate.

VII.—COMMERCE.

Customs.

The value of the Protectorate trade during the year 1936 was Rs.82,75,397 compared with Rs.53,26,507 in 1935. The

following comparative table shows the value of imports and exports excluding specie for the last five years:—

Year.	*Imports.* Rs.	*Exports.* Rs.	*Total.* Rs.
1932	40,77,827	21,42,030	62,19,857
1933	37,88,671*	19,54,166*	57,42,837*
1934	35,80,851*	18,32,397*	54,13,248*
1935	36,27,046*	16,99,461*	53,26,507*
1936	56,69,801*	26,05,596*	82,75,397*

* Exclusive of goods in transit previously included.

Imports.

The import trade during 1936 was distributed in the following proportions between the Protectorate ports:—

Port.	*Amount.*	*Percentage.*				
		1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	Rs.					
Berbera ...	48,10,097	77·5	78·0	75·2	78·1	84·9
Zeilah ...	6,59,326	12·6	16·4	17·7	15·1	11·6
Makhir Coast	2,00,378	9·9	5·6	7·1	6·8	3·5

The following were the commodities principally comprising the Import trade:—

Article.	*Country of Origin.*	*Unit.*	*1932.*	*1933.**	*1934.**	*1935.**	*1936.**
Grey Sheeting.	Russia.	Yards	—	7,200	8,050	4,155	—
	Japan.	,,	1,939,687	694,263	545,426	406,548	297,734
	United Kingdom.	,,	—	—	1,830	7,059	—
	India.	,,	—	—	—	286,450	849,870
Long Cloth.	United Kingdom.	,,	930,468	618,928	637,178	837,549	1,932,859
	Japan.	,,	297,086	42,370	65,322	76,468	65,125
	Russia.	,,	—	—	—	—	882
	India.	,,	—	—	—	—	25
	Other Foreign.	,,	—	—	—	—	40
Dates ...	Persian Gulf.	Cwt.	81,588	43,125	42,866	49,207	51,684
Rice ...	India.	,,	100,182	160,215	166,550	123,654	153,851
	Siam.	,,	—	—	—	—	16,425
Sugar ...	United Kingdom.	,,	—	61,848	55,346	62,481	98,206
	Java.	,,	54,267	196	646	1,360	781
	Italy.	,,	—	—	4,550	20	80
	Holland.	,,	—	—	—	—	50
	Germany.	,,	—	—	—	—	52
	Russia.	,,	—	—	—	—	1,081

* Exclusive of goods-in-transit previously included.

The system of import quotas for textile goods of other than British manufacture which was introduced in 1934 was continued throughout 1936. The commodity principally affected has been, as previously, grey sheeting, of which the quotas for the year were 406,848 yards of Japanese manufacture and 17,536 yards of any other foreign manufacture.

Exports.

The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs.129,391, amounted to Rs.2,605,596 and distributed in the following proportions between the Protectorate ports:—

Port.	*Amount.*	*Percentage.*				
		1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	Rs.					
Berbera ...	18,08,938	70·3	68·3	62·9	61·6	69·4
Zeilah ...	6,43,687	21·6	25·4	31·7	29·4	24·7
Makhir Coast	1,52,971	8·1	6·3	5·4	9·0	5·9

The following were the main indigenous products shipped from the Protectorate:—

Article.	*Country of destination.*	*Unit.*	*1932.*	*1933.**	*1934.**	*1935.**	*1936.**
Bullocks	Aden and Suez	Nos.	756	1,086	884	1,847	1,366
Sheep and Goats.	Aden and Mukalla.	,,	136,497	120,189	95,127	88,866	104,663
Skins (sheep and goats).	Europe and America *via* Aden.	,,	1,079,796	1,715,750	1,848,953	1,099,887	1,301,419
Hides ...	Aden ...	Cwt.	—	—	30	13	7
Gums and Resins.	Europe and India *via* Aden.	,,	16,669	8,467	7,329	13,176	11,938
Ghee ...	Aden	,,	5,913	1,643	534	1,712	2,960

* Exclusive of goods-in-transit previously included.

Land Customs.

ZEILAH.

The export statistics of the Land Customs station for the years 1932-6 are as under:—

Item.	*Unit.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Horses	Nos.	13	28	31	6	27
Camels	,,	297	455	616	830	650
Donkeys	,,	4	20	5	9	30
Cattle	,,	275	569	371	862	806
Sheep and Goats ...	,,	20,737	20,600	13,197	9,834	13,799
Salt	Cwt.	39,219	53,765	62,822	51,275	29,198

Salt.—The following table shows the working of the Zeilah salt industry for the period from 1932-6:—

Year.	*Quantity Exported.*		
	By land.	*By sea.*	*Total.*
	Cwt.	*Cwt.*	*Cwt.*
1932	39,219	845	40,064
1933	53,765	318	54,083
1934	62,822	394	63,216
1935	51,275	980	52,255
1936	29,198	500	29,698

The bulk of salt exports are sent overland from Zeilah to Ethiopia.

HARGEISA AND BORAMA.

At Hargeisa duty amounting to Rs.1,077-2-0 was collected on 3,435 akaras or bundles of kat (*Katha Edulis*) imported from Abyssinia, and at Borama differential duty to the amount ot Rs.492-8-0 was paid on goods originally imported at Zeilah by sea. In 1935 the corresponding items were Rs.547-13-0 (1,748 akaras) and Rs.21-11-0.

Transit Trade.

Customs duty at the rate of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* is levied on merchandise in transit through the Protectorate to and from Ethiopia. The value of goods so imported and exported since 1932 was:—

	Rs.
1932	10,77,347
1933	11,54,051
1934	13,73,287
1935	17,22,707
1936*	6,10,520

* The transit trade proper collapsed during May, 1936, on the military occupation of Ethiopia by Italy, and, as is explained in Section XV of the reports, goods imported for re-export to Ethiopia became subject to ordinary rates of customs duty.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The few Somalis who work for their living are employed either as coolies, clerks, and subordinates in Government Departments, or as personal servants. The approximate wages of the various types are:—

Coolies, 8 annas a day (8 hours).
Clerks, Rs.40 to Rs.350 a month (according to grade).
Personal servants, Rs.15 to Rs.45 a month.
Motor drivers, Rs.35 to Rs.100 a month.

The staple food of the Somali in Government or private employ is a daily ration composed of 1 lb. rice, ½ lb. dates, and 2 ounces of ghee, the value of which is usually about 3 annas.

The average cost of living for Europeans is about Rs.5 (7s. 6d.) a head *per diem* for a married couple. For one adult

the cost would be relatively high. The figure given does not include servants' wages, cost of entertaining, or club expenses.

IX.—EDUCATION, WELFARE INSTITUTIONS, AND RECREATION.

Education.

There have been indications during the last few years that the instinctive opposition of the Somalis to secular education for their children is losing strength. The Education Scheme, commenced in 1930 and referred to in previous reports, has been productive, so far, of meagre results. This scheme requires the co-operation of the Somalis, and it is noticeable that the monetary grants to certain Koranic schools are now applied more seriously than in the past to the furtherance of education. During 1936 small grants of money and school materials were made to the Koranic schools at Zeilah, Berbera, Borama, Hargeisa and Burao.

There are three Somali boys being educated at Gordon College, Khartoum (partly at Government expense and partly at the expense of the relatives of the boys).

There is a small Government elementary school in Berbera, attended by Somali, Arab and Indian children. Increased facilities for education at Berbera and at other towns in the Protectorate are under consideration.

Welfare Institutions.

There are no welfare institutions in British Somaliland, but a camp is maintained at Berbera for the accommodation and feeding of destitute Somalis. At the end of the year, 117 persons were being maintained in the camp.

Recreation.

There are primitive golf courses at most stations in the Protectorate, and tennis is played at all stations. There are cricket pitches at Berbera and Burao which are used when sufficient enthusiasts are gathered together. The greatest activity in this direction occurs on the occasions when the Protectorate is visited by one of His Majesty's ships.

The Somali is a fine natural athlete and takes eagerly to cricket, football, and hockey. At hockey, as in cricket, the Somali is a great individualist and much training is needed to attain combination. Both games call for strict umpiring. The Police and Somaliland Camel Corps both field very good hockey teams, as also do the towns of Berbera, Burao, and Sheikh.

Polo is played by the Camel Corps, and riding is a popular pastime, with many Europeans in the country. Wart-hog abound in places, and opportunities for pig-sticking are plentiful, while the big and small game of the country provide good sport.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

There is a weekly service from Aden, which is worked by local contract, the ships connecting at Aden with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's outward and homeward bound ships.

The following is a comparative table of the steam and motor vessels and country craft shipping which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the last five years:—

	1932.		*1933.*		*1934.*		*1935.*		*1936.*	
	Nos.	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*
Entered...	694	51,923	687	58,306	772	69,530	684	75,060	505	57,287
Cleared ...	660	51,153	637	57,898	726	68,961	678	75,997	486	55,921

Roads.

There are no railways in the Protectorate, and all transport is by road.

The roads, of which some 2,000 miles are open for wheeled traffic, are classed as Main or Trunk Roads and District Roads. The former are maintained by the Public Works Department and the latter by the District Administration.

They are suitable for general traffic and for vehicles of medium weight up to two tons carrying capacity, but are subject to weather conditions, becoming at times impassable, particularly at river crossings, in the rainy seasons.

The principal main routes are:—

Berbera to Burao *via* Sheikh, 90 miles.

Berbera to Borama *via* Hargeisa, 184 miles.

Burao to Erigavo *via* Ainabo and Adad, 236 miles.

A lateral road of importance also connects Burao and Hargeisa *via* Oadweina—123½ miles.

The more important District Roads are:—

(1) Nogal system, 340 miles, connecting Ainabo, Bohotleh, Las Anod and Bihen.

(2) Ain Valley, 177 miles, connecting Ainabo, Hudin and Halin.

(3) Burao to Eik and the Southern boundary.

(4) Hargeisa to Gibileh and the Southern boundary.

(5) Borama to Zeilah, 140 miles.

(6) Erigavo to Baran and Las War War, 274 miles.

Motor Transport.

Motor traffic along the main commercial routes, from Berbera to Jijiga *via* Hargeisa, and Berbera to Erigavo *via* Burao, again showed an increase in 1936.

Vehicles of British and Empire manufacture were imported in greater numbers, particularly from Canada, since facilities for obtaining spare parts through agencies in Berbera and Aden

have recently improved. No repair workshops or service depots have yet been established in the Protectorate.

The numbers of motor vehicles in use, other than Government vehicles, were:—

Private cars	43
Commercial cars	159

The importations of vehicles in the Protectorate during the year were:—

Private	7
Commercial	85

The following statement shows the countries of origin of the licensed motor vehicles in the Protectorate:—

British Empire	100
United States of America	99
French	2
Italian	1

Government Motor Transport.—The following transport is maintained by the Public Works Department:—

Morris, 25 cwt. Commercial	5
Morris, " Oxford " Tourer (His Excellency the Governor's car)	1
Humber " Snipe " Saloon (His Excellency the Governor's car)	1
Ford V-8 Tourer	1

The total mileage run by Government motor transport in 1936, exclusive of that of vehicles of the mechanized company of the Somaliland Camel Corps and four vehicles of the water-boring Party, was 45,400 miles. Running costs amounted to 4·23 annas per ton-mile as compared with 4·7 annas per ton-mile by camel transport.

Posts and Telegraphs.

The headquarters of the Posts and Telegraphs Department are at Berbera.

The revenue and expenditure of the Department in respect of the last five years was as follows:—

	1936.	*1935.*	*1934.*	*1933.*	*1932.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue	2,358	4,881	1,139	1,223	1,367
Expenditure ...	7,084	7,471	6,949	7,067	8,136

The Indian Post Office Act, 1898, was applied to British Somaliland by an order of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs dated 9th March, 1903, and the Protectorate Post Office was transferred from the Indian Administration and constituted under the above authority on the 1st June, 1903, the Protectorate becoming a member of the International Postal Union.

The operations against the Dervishes in 1903 necessitated the establishment of a number of Field Post Offices, the mails being

carried by runners and camel riders. This system was maintained till 1925 for the conveyance of mails between the administrative stations in the interior, and, in the absence of railways and motor cars, proved generally a cheap, reliable and comparatively speedy service.

In 1925, a weekly motor car mail service was inaugurated, connecting Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, Erigavo, Borama and Hargeisa. Other places are still served by mail runners.

Direct mails, which are exchanged weekly with London, Aden, and Bombay, are carried by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's mail steamers, regular connexions with which are made by local contract steamers between Aden and Berbera. Letters to and from the United Kingdom are delivered within from 12 to 14 days.

The following are the denominations of postage stamps on sale in the Protectorate:—

Annas, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12.
Rupees, 1, 2, 3, 5.

The issue and payment of British postal orders were introduced in January, 1905, and during the same year arrangements were made with the British and Indian Post Offices for a direct exchange of money orders. A direct Telegraph Money Order Service between the Protectorate and the United Kingdom was introduced in 1916. In 1907, the cash on delivery and insurance of parcels, and the value payable and insurance of parcels, etc., services were introduced with Great Britain and India, including Aden, and in the following year the insured letter service to Great Britain was commenced. The insured box service with Great Britain and certain other countries was introduced in 1926. The direct exchange of money orders with the Kenya and Uganda Administration, which had been introduced in 1910, was suspended in 1921 on account of exchange difficulties. Money orders to and from the East African Dependencies are exchanged through the intermediary of the Aden Post Office.

The present telegraph administration is the result of expansion and improvement of the military telegraphs used in connexion with the operations of the Somaliland Field Force in 1903, with subsequently the addition of wireless telegraphy.

A telegraph line connects Berbera with Sheikh and Burao, which are also served by telephone.

Wireless stations (1½ kilowatt) are in operation at Berbera, Borama, Burao, Erigavo and Hargeisa. The Zeilah station was closed in December, 1934.

All stations are open to the public for inland and foreign telegrams. The charge on inland telegrams is two annas per word without a minimum. The charges on foreign telegrams

were revised in June, 1934. The principal full-rate charges are as follows:—

8 annas per word without a minimum to Aden.

Rs.1-15-0* per word without a minimum to the United Kingdom.

Rs.1-10-0* per word without a minimum to India.

The Daily Letter Telegram Service was introduced in 1933.

A service of telegrams conveying Christmas and New Year wishes (greeting telegrams) is admissible during the period from 14th December to 6th January, inclusive.

The air mail service from the Protectorate was withdrawn during August, 1936, the Italian Air Company, Societa Ala Littoria, having cancelled Berbera as a port of call, in order to accelerate their air service to Italian East Africa.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a branch of the commercial firm of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, Bombay, accepts deposits from private individuals, cashes cheques drawn on them, and arranges the transfer of funds to the United Kingdom and elsewhere through a branch of the firm at Aden.

The Government Savings Bank continues to gain ground. The rate of interest paid remains at 2½ per cent., and depositors from all classes of the community are taking advantage of the facilities offered. The number of depositors increased in the year from 205 to 241.

Currency.

The monetary unit is the Government of India rupee at one shilling and sixpence. Rupees are legal tender for the payment of any amount and Government of India subsidiary coinage is legal tender for the payment of sums not in excess of five rupees. India Government Currency Notes are in circulation.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial standard of weights and measures is in force. The Indian and Somali traders also use certain of the weights and measures in force in British India.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

A general programme of small works was carried out during the year and necessary repairs to and upkeep of Government buildings were undertaken. Owing to the prolonged absence on sick leave of the Director of Public Works, it was not found possible to carry out the complete programme of major works.

* Half this rate is charged for deferred telegrams.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There is no Judicial or Legal Department in the Protectorate, but in 1935 a Legal Secretary was appointed whose duties are to advise the Governor on matters of law in all Court cases, to act as Registrar of the Protectorate Court, to advise the Governor on the legal aspects of all Government business, to draft legislation and to assist generally in the work of the Secretariat. The Criminal Courts consist of the Protectorate Court, District Courts of the first class, and District Courts of the second class. The Governor and Secretary to the Government are the judges of the Protectorate Court. During the absence of the Governor or the Secretary to the Government, certain Protectorate Court cases may be tried by a District Officer specially empowered under Ordinance No. 3 of 1933. District Courts of the first class are held by District Officers and such other officers as the Governor may so empower. District Courts of the second class are held by those officers so empowered by the Governor. The District Courts are empowered by law to try all cases in which natives are parties except for sedition, treason or offences punishable with death. Cases beyond the jurisdiction of the District Courts, or possessing features which make a trial by the Protectorate Court desirable, are committed by the District Court for trial by the Protectorate Court. There is no trial by jury, but the Protectorate Court when trying cases under its original jurisdiction sits with three assessors. At the conclusion of a case each assessor gives his opinion. In cases where appeals lie from judgments of District Courts, the appeal is to the Protectorate Court sitting as a Court of Appeal, which is the final Appellate Court in the Protectorate.

The law of the Protectorate is:—

(*a*) Coded law, i.e., Local Ordinances and a number of British and Indian Acts which have been applied to the Protectorate.

The more important of these Acts are the Indian Penal Code, the Indian Evidence Act, the Indian Contract Act, the Indian Stamp Act, the Indian Code of Civil Procedure, the Indian Limitation Act. The procedure in Criminal Courts is in accordance with the Administration of Criminal Justice Ordinance (Chapter 4 of the Revised Edition of the Laws), which closely resembles the Indian Criminal Procedure Code.

(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan law.

A stricter legal control is now exercised. In past years, murder and homicide among the natives were dealt with under tribal custom, but such crimes are now tried by the Criminal Courts.

In addition to Criminal and Civil cases under (*a*), tribal cases are investigated and judged by District Courts under a mixture of tribal custom, Mohammedan law and Indian law. This work forms the great bulk of the District Officers' work, since the Somali's inherent love of litigation and refusal to accept any decision except from the highest court of appeal lead to much work of a trivial nature which, if neglected, may result in inter-tribal fighting. The Kadis deal with cases falling entirely under Mohammedan law, and Courts of Akils or Elders have been set up to deal with the less important and contentious of tribal cases.

Crime.

The following summary shows the amount of crime in the Protectorate for 1936, as compared with the previous year:—

	1936.	1935.
Convictions for murder	5	4
Persons executed	—	3
Offences against the person	242	195
Offences against property	255	224
Other offences	824	626

Police.

The Somaliland Civil Police are constituted under the Somaliland Civil Police Ordinance. The force is under the control of the Governor, and has an establishment of four European officers, four Somali officers, and some 550 other ranks. Rank and file in stations other than Berbera are under the charge of District Officers.

Garrison duties are carried out by the force at Berbera, Erigavo, Zeilah, and Borama. The police are liable to serve as a military force when called upon by the Governor to discharge military duties.

Prisons.

The established prisons in the Protectorate are the Central Prison in Berbera and five District Prisons at Zeilah, Burao, Hargeisa, Borama, and Erigavo, respectively.

The Central Prison accommodates all convicts sentenced to terms of imprisonment exceeding six months, in addition to all prisoners convicted in the Berbera District.

The District Prisons accommodate prisoners convicted within Districts and sentenced to imprisonment for six months or less.

Since 1930 the Commandant of Police has been Director of Prisons with powers of inspection of all prisons in the Protectorate, and, further, with power to appoint a European officer, subject to the approval of the Governor, to be in responsible charge of the Berbera Prison for the purpose of carrying out the regulations made under the Prison Discipline Ordinance, 1918. The administration of District Prisons is in the hands of District Officers.

The Central Prison occupies an area of some 6,700 square yards, the whole being surrounded by a stone wall from 11 to 17 feet high. Accommodation is provided for male, female, and juvenile convicts. In addition to the usual wards and cells, the prison is equipped with a dispensary, two sick wards capable of accommodating four lying-in cases, a workshop, and the usual offices. The prison is lighted by electricity.

Committals to the Central Prison during 1936, as compared with the three preceding years, were as follows:—

Year.	*For want of bail or for debt.*	*For penal imprisonment.*
1936	11	152
1935	7	201
1934	6	216
1933	Nil.	250

The bulk of the labour provided by the prisoners is unskilled, and is used on work of public utility such as road-making, quarrying stones, watering trees in Government grounds, etc.

A certain amount of skilled labour is carried out in the Central Prison, where long-sentence prisoners are taught to manufacture and repair articles of use to other departments. The manufacture of cane furniture for the Public Works Department is the main industry.

The Central Prison is visited at least once in every two months by the Visiting Justices.

Section 2 of the Administration of Criminal Justice (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931, provides that no young person under the age of 16 years shall be sentenced to imprisonment, if the court considers that suitable punishment can be imposed in some other way by placing on probation, or fine or corporal punishment, or committal to a place of detention, or otherwise. Local conditions do not permit of the institution of a regular probation system.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-two Ordinances were enacted during 1936.

The following is a list of the more important enactments:—

The Savings Bank Ordinance (No. 2 of 1936) replaces previous legislation and is based on a model draft provided by the Secretary of State.

The Building Restriction Ordinance (No. 7 of 1936) prohibits the erection of any building, other than a portable one, without permission.

The Fire Prevention Ordinance (No. 9 of 1936) provides penalties for the wilful or negligent burning of crops, grass, trees, etc.

The Widows' and Orphans' Pensions (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 10 of 1936) extends the range of the Tables to the Principal Ordinance in order to provide benefits in respect of husbands from the age of 50 years to the age of 54 years and introduces revised instructions for the use of the Tables.

The Illalo Ordinance (No. 11 of 1936) provides for the establishment of a force of tribal police under the administration and command of District Officers.

The Collective Punishment (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 12 of 1936) gives power to the Governor to order persons found guilty of offences against the Principal Ordinance to live in a specified district or area, and also to order the seizure of the movable property of persons reasonably suspected of having committed such an offence pending the holding of inquiry.

The Motor Traffic (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance (No. 18 of 1936) makes the law more applicable to modern conditions of motor traffic.

The Gum and Damask Plantations (Registration) Ordinance (No. 19 of 1936) provides for the registration of the right of an individual or of a section of a tribe to work a Gum or Damask Plantation and prohibits the transfer of such a right except in accordance with native custom.

The Preservation of Grazing Areas and Water Ordinance (No. 22 of 1936) gives power to prohibit temporarily grazing in any specified area in order to preserve grazing and power to prevent the contamination of wells. This Ordinance does not come into operation until such date as the Governor may appoint. A date has not yet been appointed.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The finances of the Protectorate improved considerably during the year, there being a marked increase in Revenue.

Consequent upon the occupation of Ethiopia by the Italian military authorities, a market for all classes of goods was created in the areas contiguous to the Protectorate and the import trade of the Protectorate increased appreciably.

No new forms of taxation were introduced during 1936 and preferential tariffs in favour of Empire goods continued in force.

Revenue.

The revenue from all sources amounted to £164,536, an increase of £45,560 as compared with the previous year. This increase is attributable mainly to the situation in the Ethiopian

territories bordering the British Somaliland frontier where a demand arose for goods of which the market had been starved. The Transit Trade collapsed in May, and goods which had formerly passed through the Protectorate in transit at the rate of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* were subject to Protectorate rates of duty, resulting in a sharp increase in revenue from Customs import duties.

The following table shows the principal sources of revenue for the years 1932-6.

	Customs. £	*Licences and Taxes.* £	*Court Fees and Government Services.* £	*Other.* £	*Total.* £
1932 ...	63,740	15,055	14,131	9,968*	102,894
1933 ...	73,318	22,347	10,645	5,576*	111,886
1934 ...	71,279	20,111	10,737	4,042*	106,169
1935 ...	72,093	16,360	12,444	18,079*	118,976
1936 ...	121,995	18,341	9,002	15,198*	164,536

* Includes receipts from the Colonial Development Fund.

Public Debt.

The net sum due by the Protectorate to the Imperial Treasury on 31st December, 1936, was £236,000. This sum represents the total of loans-in-aid of civil expenditure for the period 1921 to 1934. Loans-in-aid are subject to repayment with interest as and when the finances of the Protectorate permit. No repayment has yet been made.

The Protectorate is also in receipt of an annual free grant-in-aid of military expenditure. The grant paid in 1936 was £30,000 and the total sum granted since 1st April, 1921, is £797,000. In addition a sum of £23,000 was received from the Imperial Treasury as a free grant for expenditure on special precautionary measures necessitated by the Italo-Ethiopian war.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year amounted to £207,190 and exceeded that of 1935 by £19,612. Expenditure to the extent of £40,271 was required for special precautionary measures necessitated by the Italo-Ethiopian dispute and under the Military head £6,212 was required for the Nyasaland Contingent of the Somaliland Camel Corps as Extraordinary expenditure.

£8,462 was expended in the year upon Water Boring Operations financed by grants from the Colonial Development Fund.

The following table shows expenditure for the years 1932-6.

	Civil.	*Military.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£
1932	109,328*	46,912	156,240
1933	114,059*	39,761	153,820
1934	126,588*	41,068	167,656
1935	132,980*	54,598	187,578
1936	136,180*	71,010	207,190

* Includes expenditure from the Colonial Development Fund grants.

Financial Position at 31st December, 1936.

	£	£
Surplus on 1st January, 1936		20,404
Surplus between Civil Revenue and Expenditure ...	40,990	
Deficit between Military Revenue and Expenditure ...	43,373	2,383
Surplus		18,021
Expenditure upon Special Precautionary Measures:—		
Civil	13,337	
Military	26,935	
		40,272
Deficit		22,251
Grant-in-Aid:—		
Ordinary Military Expenditure	30,000	
Special Expenditure	23,000	
		53,000
Surplus at 31st December, 1936		30,749

Customs Duties.

Authority:—The Customs Ordinance (Chapter 44, Revised Edition of the Laws) and amending Ordinances 1930 to 1936. The Alcoholic Liquors Ordinance (Chapter 29, Revised Edition of the Laws), and amending Ordinances 1930 to 1933.

The Customs duties are classified under two heads: (*a*) Specific Duties; (*b*) *Ad Valorem* Duties.

The value at which *ad valorem* duty is assessed is (*a*) in accordance with the Tariff which is approved yearly on 1st April by His Excellency the Governor and which is open for inspection at each Custom House; (*b*) where no provision is made in the Tariff (i) in the case of imports, the wholesale cash price less trade discount, for which goods of the like kind and quality are sold or are capable of being sold, at the time and place of importation, without any abatement or deduction except the amount of the duties payable on the importation thereof; and (ii) in the case of exports, the prevailing market price at the port of exportation as ascertained monthly by the Treasurer and Chief of Customs or as manifested on exporters' invoices.

TARIFF.

Imports.

Specific Duties:—

	Ordinary Rate. Rs. as. ps.	*Preferential Rate.* Rs. as. ps.
Alcoholic Liquors, per gallon	13 3 0	12 0 0
Rice, per 168 lb.	2 12 0	2 8 0
Sugar, per 28 lb.	1 0 0	0 12 0
Dates, per 168 lb.	1 12 0	—
Grey Sheeting, per 750 yds.	77 0 0	38 8 0
White Long Cloth, per 40 yds.	5 8 0	4 0 0
Matches per standard box	0 0 4	0 0 3
Matches per large box	0 0 8	0 0 6
Currants, Greek, per cwt.	1 0 0	—
Rubber soled footwear, with leather upper parts, per dozen pairs	22 0 0	6 0 0

Ad Valorem Duties:—

Rice (certain varieties), building materials, mats, matting and native pottery, naphthaline, fresh, dried and preserved fruit and vegetables, fresh and preserved provisions, and articles of European attire	20 per cent.	10 per cent.
Live stock and all other goods, with certain exceptions	25 per cent.	15 per cent.

Exports.

Live stock and local produce with certain exceptions	10 per cent.

The preferential rates of duty are extended to articles produced or manufactured in and consigned from the British Empire.

The following are the customs ports and frontier customs stations at which the above import and export duties are collected:—

Customs Ports.—Berbera, Zeilah, Las Khoreh, Heis, and Elayu.

Frontier Customs Stations.—Zeilah, Elayu, Hargeisa, Gibileh, and Borama (goods in transit only).

Subject to certain exceptions, a rebate of half of the Protectorate rates is allowed on all goods exported from Zeilah, and two-thirds on all goods imported at Zeilah for consumption within the administrative district of Zeilah.

Goods in Transit.

(*a*) ***Transit duty.***—On all goods imported in transit to and from Ethiopia, 1 per cent. *ad valorem.*

(*b*) ***Valuation.***—The value of goods imported in transit for purposes of transit duty is the wholesale cash price, less trade discount, for which goods of the like kind are sold or are capable of being sold at the time and place of importation without any abatement or deduction except the amount of the duties payable on the importation thereof.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

All land in the Protectorate except in proclaimed townships may be said to be vested in the Somali tribes. Outside the townships no individual title to land is recognized (except in the case of a few small religious settlements) nor is any sectional title to any particular area recognized as giving any particular section of the tribe an exclusive right to that area. It is the habit of certain sections always to graze in the same area and this in practice gives them a prescriptive title to that area, but theoretically and legally individuals of other sections have the right to enter such areas and to use the grazing as necessity dictates. In the western part of the Protectorate, where large areas of ground are under cultivation, the tribal title has been restricted to the extent that the right of individual cultivators to the enjoyment of the area cultivated is recognized, but only so long as effective cultivation is continued.

Government has taken powers to expropriate land for public purposes, on payment of compensation for damage done thereby to an individual or section. Land so expropriated becomes Crown Land.

The township areas are divided into two classes:—

(*a*) old-established towns on the coast, such as Berbera and Zeilah; and

(*b*) recently established towns in the interior.

In class (*a*), the matter has been allowed to remain undefined. In practice, disputes as to ownership seldom arise.

In class (*b*), Government has introduced legislation to give to individuals a valid title to ground. All townships are of such recent growth that, except in five small plots in Hargeisa, no claim to freehold has been established, and leases or temporary occupation licences have been given to such of the present occupiers as wish to secure a legal title to their land.

Rainfall.

The rainfall was up to the average and fairly well distributed in most areas, with the result that grazing was adequate through-

out the Protectorate, and Government was not called upon to take any abnormal measures for the relief of destitution.

Political Situation.

The result of the Italo-Ethiopian conflict has yet to be fully appreciated in this country. If the British Somali tribes retain their prescriptive right to graze and water in Ethiopia and Italian Somaliland and their customary trans-frontier trade facilities, it is not considered that the occupation of Ethiopia by Italy will cause any embarrassment to the inhabitants of the Protectorate, provided the Italian Government does not include them in any system of taxation imposed upon Italian Somali tribes—such as grazing, stock or poll taxes.

The past year may be regarded as having been, on the whole, a period of peace and prosperity throughout the Protectorate, but an unsettling atmosphere has been created by the re-opening over the border, and therefore beyond the control of the Protectorate authorities, of a number of long-standing blood-feuds by a few malcontents of our tribes.

Berbera District.—The attitude of indifference to events over the border has been maintained, and a natural eagerness to share in the profits resulting from the increased trans-frontier trade is the only sign that the inhabitants of Berbera are aware of any change in conditions in Ethiopia. The local merchants are of the opinion that the trans-frontier trade will gradually decline, and that conditions will revert to normal before the end of 1937, and that the general outlook does not justify any particular optimism. Nevertheless, it is difficult to believe that the establishment of a European administration across the border will not benefit Protectorate trade permanently to some extent.

Burao District.—The British-protected Somalis are very anxiously awaiting the outcome of the discussions, which they have been told will be undertaken in due course between the British and Italian Governments, regarding their grazing rights south of the frontier. The firm stand taken by the Italian authorities against the presence in occupied territory of armed tribespeople, and our own efforts to enforce the registration of rifles have caused a change for the better in the attitude of British Somalis towards disarmament.

The Italo-Ethiopian war has given a great impetus to local trade. The general shortage of foodstuff in the territories occupied by the Italians has encouraged a number of retail traders—Arabs, Indians and Somalis—to take supplies to those areas from British territory. This trade is, however, severely handicapped by the Italian currency rules, which prohibit the export of lira.

Hargeisa District.—The Italian occupation of Ethiopia has had rather an unsettling effect upon British tribes since they are afraid that they will not be allowed to retain their grazing and watering rights in that country. Until the respective Governments have come to an arrangement regarding these questions, and until they are settled on a basis which is fair to our tribes, the unrest will continue. Very many young men have left the country to find employment in Ethiopia, mostly as soldiers. Stock-owners are realizing that their sons are no longer content to stay at home and look after the stock, and it is very difficult to find servants to take their place.

Trade has been given a fillip in this district since the Italians conquered the adjacent territory. When Jijiga was first occupied, every small trader who could obtain goods and the wherewithal to transport them, rushed to Jijiga and sold them to the troops at enormous profit. Later, restrictions were put into force by the Italian Government and the trade has died down considerably, but there is still a great deal being exported and many small traders, who were poor before, are now comparatively rich. Many people, who never thought of trading previously, are taking caravans over the border and doing very well. A sign of prosperity is a brisk demand for building plots in Hargeisa town. It is thought that the boom will continue just as long as the Italians are unable to obtain sufficient supplies from their own country. The price of sheep skins was very high towards the end of the year, but it is expected that there will be a big drop in the price before very long.

Erigavo District.—Being far removed from the scene of the conflict, Erigavo District has suffered little or no repercussions from the Italo-Ethiopian war.

Trade has shown an upward trend in 1936, and (possibly owing to the large quantity of gum exported) money is far more plentiful than in 1935. The prices of stock and skins have risen sharply and, as an indication of the increased trade in the district, traders' cars have visited Erigavo regularly and extra building plots have been taken up in the township.

Zeilah District.—The collapse of the Ethiopian forces and the occupation of Ethiopia by Italy has overshadowed everything in the district. Internally the year has been very peaceful but events across the border have adversely affected a big proportion of the Gadabursi and Esa tribes. The war did not touch the Gadabursi or Esa grazing areas across the frontier and, generally speaking, conditions were normal until the arrival of the Italian administrative officers. Since then, and until the questions of trans-frontier grazing and watering rights

have been settled between the local Governments, unsettled conditions are inevitable.

Trade generally has shown a marked improvement over that of the previous year. This is attributable, in part, to the improvement which has taken place in trade conditions outside the Protectorate, and which is reflected in the increase of British and American prosperity, but mainly to the situation in Ethiopia.

Appendix

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British Somaliland (Drake-Brockman), London, 1917.

Somaliland (Hamilton), London, 1911.

The Mad Mullah of Somaliland (Jardine), London, 1923.

Sun, Sand and Somals (Rayne), London, 1921.

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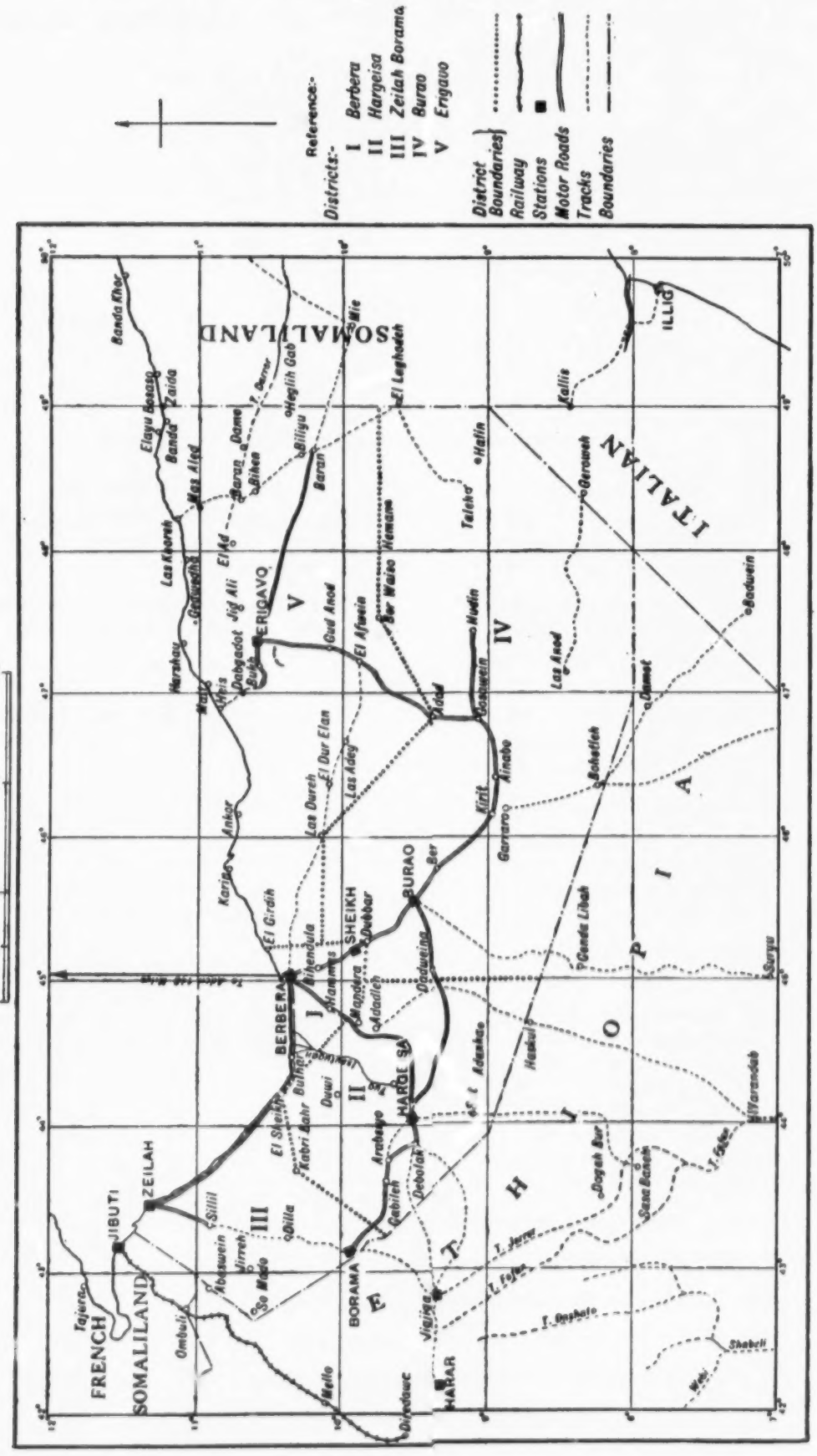

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Protectorate of British Somaliland has for its northern boundary about 450 miles of coast-line on the Gulf of Aden, and extends from Loyi Ada (Hadu), longitude 43° 15′ East, as far as the forty-ninth degree of East longitude, close to the town of Banda Ziada.

The Protectorate marches with Italian Somaliland from Banda Ziada to a point in latitude 8° North; thence with Ethiopia to near Jalelo, and with French Somaliland from near Jalelo to Loyi Ada (Hadu) on the coast.

The area of the Protectorate is about 68,000 square miles. Topographically it consists of the following four main features, extending southwards from the coast-line:—

(*a*) An almost bare, gently rising, alluvial coastal plain ranging in breadth from about half a mile in the east to about 60 miles in the west: this is succeeded by

(*b*) a maritime plain, with a similar slope, on which are numerous broken ridges of limestone and hills of igneous rock, and which varies in breadth from a mile or two in

the east and west to about 30 miles in the middle. The native name for both the coastal and maritime plains is *Guban*.

(*c*) A vertical escarpment of limestone about 2,000 feet thick, resting on igneous rocks which, at the bottom of the scarp, form foothills and ridges up to 3,500 feet in height. The escarpment (native name *Golis*) trends roughly east and west, and is pronounced from the eastern boundary to a little west of the middle line of the Protectorate. Further west, it is largely replaced by ridges of igneous rock.

(*d*) From the top of the scarp, a long, wide, and almost featureless plateau (native name *Ogo*) slopes gently downwards to the south-east into the Haud, a belt of thorn wilderness and pasturages, extending into Ethiopian and Italian territory. Each of these four main features has its characteristic vegetation, dependent on climate and rainfall.

The maritime plain, with a hot climate and small rainfall, supports in places frankincense and myrrh trees. The ridges and foothills near the base of the escarpment, with a cooler climate and larger rainfall, are, especially in the eastern half of the country, partly covered with trees of *Acacia Verek*. On the top of the escarpment, at altitudes between 4,500 and 6,000 feet, a species of box (*Buxus Hildebrandtii*) is very common, especially in the Erigavo District. Some thirty miles west of Sheikh, this species flourishes on granitic hills at altitudes down to 3,500 feet.

At altitudes above 6,000 feet on top of the escarpment are patches of cedar (*Juniperus Procera*). In one locality, north-west of Erigavo, where the escarpment reaches a height of 7,500 feet, these trees form a small forest, and they have also been found at intervals almost up to the south-western boundary.

On the interior plateau, the average rainfall ranges from about 20 inches a year in the west to about 10 inches in the east and 8 inches in the south and south-east. The plateau consists in part of an open savannah of thorny acacias, in part of grass-covered plains; and though, over the greater part of it, the rainfall is low and the grazing is on the whole somewhat indifferent, this part of the Protectorate supports the bulk of the stock—camels, sheep, goats and cattle—on which most of the native population subsist.

On parts of the maritime plain, among the foothills of the escarpment, and, especially in the west, on several flats between the ridges to the north of the main escarpment, are areas of *Sansevieria Ehrenbergii* (*Hig*), a plant which is somewhat similar to sisal, and of which the fibre is considered to be of some commercial value.

Owing to the scanty water supply, the camel is the animal most suited to the country, but cattle thrive, especially in the hills, and sheep and goats do excellently so long as the rainfall is up to the average.

The chief ports are Berbera, Zeilah, and Las Khoreh.

There are no hotels of any sort in the Protectorate. There are furnished rest-houses at Berbera, Burao, and Hargeisa, but only those at Berbera and Hargeisa provide messing facilities. There are no European private residents in British Somaliland, and it is necessary for all intending visitors to obtain permission from the Secretary to the Government to enter the Protectorate. It is essential for such visitors to arrive completely self-contained, unless they have made arrangements privately for accommodation with officers of the Protectorate.

Climate.

Somaliland has a small but fairly regular rainfall. The dry season lasts from December to March, during which period there is practically no rain. The big rains fall during April and May and they are succeeded by the south-west monsoon (called locally the *kharif*), which blows from June till October —the hottest period of the year. The *kharif* is very trying to Europeans, particularly on the coast, where the heat and dust make concentrated work difficult.

On the higher ground in the interior the heat is at no time intolerable, and the nights are generally cool.

From November to March the climate is quite pleasant, the heat on the coast being tempered by the sea breeze.

Rainfall in the interior is of a very local character, and consequently there is often considerable variation in local conditions as to grazing, rainpools, etc.

The meteorological statistics are as follows:—

Station.	*Total Rainfall.*	*Mean Maximum.*	*Mean Minimum.*	*Absolute Maximum.*	*Absolute Minimum.*	*Total Rainfall for previous four years.*			
	1937.					*1936.*	*1935.*	*1934.*	*1933.*
	Inches	° F.	° F.	° F.	° F.	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Berbera ...	1·79	92·4	77·0	112·0	60·0	2·43	6·20	1·70	0·86
Sheikh ...	20·27	69·3	47·4	87·0	33·0	17·76	16·58	18·17	17·07
Burao ...	9·86	81·7	59·2	95·0	32·0	9·16	7·26	5·67	5·58
Hargeisa...	17·82	85·1	56·5	96·0	35·0	19·26	18·26	15·19	12·42
Zeilah ...	5·73	90·1	76·2	109·0	64·0	0·50	3·29	5·46	2·05
Borama ...	25·26	78·0	57·7	95·0	39·0	26·52	25·99	18·37	15·90
Erigavo ...	18·42	77·8	49·6	87·0	28·0	13·19	13·53	12·53	9·81

N.B.—The highest velocity of wind recorded in Berbera (by the Anemometer) was 59 miles per hour on the 16th of July.

History.

Prior to 1884, the administration of the Somali Coast was in the hands of the Egyptian Government. Upon its collapse in that year, a Protectorate was proclaimed by Great Britain, and the boundaries were settled by agreements with France, Italy, and Ethiopia. The Protectorate was administered by the Resident at Aden as a Dependency of the Government of India until 1898 when it was transferred to the charge of the Foreign Office. On 1st April, 1905, it was transferred to the Colonial Office.

From 1901 to 1920, the history of Somaliland is largely a history of campaigns against Mohammed bin Abdulla Hassan, the "Mad Mullah." In 1901, 1902, and 1903, expeditions were sent against the Mullah, and in January, 1904, a crushing defeat was inflicted on him at Jidballeh. He then retired into Italian territory and claimed Italian protection. An agreement was made between him and the Italian Government, but the Mullah soon disregarded this agreement and commenced further aggressive actions against the tribes under British protection.

In 1908, a policy of coastal concentration was adopted. In March, 1910, all troops were withdrawn from the country, except for small garrisons at the three ports of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeilah. This policy did not prove a success, and in 1912-3 administration of the interior was gradually resumed. From 1914 desultory fighting continued until 1920, when a combined attack with land and air forces scattered the Mullah and his followers, and captured all his forts and possessions. The Mullah fled into Ethiopia, where he died in February, 1921.

In recent years, conditions have been peaceful.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Protectorate is administered by the Governor and, in his absence, by the Secretary to the Government. There is neither Executive nor Legislative Council. The powers of the Governor are defined in the Somaliland Orders in Council, 1929 to 1935.

Departments of Government.

The Governor's office and Secretariat are at Sheikh, and the headquarters of the Treasury and Customs, Police and Prisons, Medical, Posts and Telegraphs, and Public Works Departments are at Berbera. The Veterinary and Agricultural Department has its headquarters at Burao.

District Administration.

For administrative purposes the Protectorate is divided into five districts, each of which is in charge of a District Officer.

The five districts are Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, and Zeilah. The headquarters of the Zeilah District are at Borama.

Military Garrison.

The Military Garrison of the Protectorate consists of the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, with headquarters at Burao and a detachment at Hargeisa.

III.—POPULATION.

The Somali population is estimated at 344,700. According to the non-native census taken in April, 1931, the non-native population was 2,683, including 68 Europeans, 520 Indians, 1,614 Arabs, 100 Ethiopians, and 258 Nyasaland natives of the Somaliland Camel Corps.

IV.—HEALTH.

The staff of the Medical Department of the Protectorate, when at full strength, consists of a Senior Medical Officer, four Medical Officers, three Assistant Surgeons, three Sub-Assistant Surgeons, two Clerks and a subordinate staff. During 1937, the European staff has been 10r considerable periods under strength. A Senior Medical Officer was on the strength from January to early May, and for periods totalling eight months there were only three Medical Officers.

Well equipped native hospitals are established at Berbera, Burao, Hargeisa, Borama and Erigavo with smaller ones at Sheikh and Zeilah, and a Dispensary at Las Khoreh. There is no hospital accommodation for Europeans, but a limited number of beds for Asiatics are available in the Berbera Native Hospital.

A camp for Ethiopian refugees was established at Damuk, near the Ethiopian frontier, in April, and was moved to Manjaseh, 25 miles from Berbera, during June. 1,362 Abyssinians (of whom 751 are men, 413 women, and 198 children) are interned in the Camp, which is under the medical charge of Dr. G. L. L. Gurney of the Bible Churchmen's Missionary Society. The health among the internees has on the whole been good, though some cases of scurvy occurred in August. A high percentage of the refugees appears to be infected with venereal disease in one form or another.

A total of 47,907 out-patients and 2,690 in-patients (of whom 5,200 and 289 respectively were treated at the Manjaseh Refugee Camp) were treated during 1937, as compared with 49,147 and 2,713 in the previous year. The in-patient figures, therefore, show a drop for the second year in succession, although

on this occasion it is so small as to be negligible. There were 92 deaths (including 12 at Manjaseh).

No serious epidemic of Malaria occurred; nevertheless a total of 319 in-patients and 96 out-patients suffered from the disease.

The number of cases of Relapsing Fever at Burao shows a satisfactory fall, 324 cases having been seen this year, as against 618 in 1936.

Only one case of Smallpox (at Hargeisa) has occurred; this contrasts with 152 cases (7 deaths) in 1936, and 243 cases (23 deaths) in 1935. Vaccination has been carried on actively among the population.

Twelve lunatics remained in the Lunatic Asylum at the beginning of the year, 26 were admitted during the year; 15 were discharged as cured or improved, and two died. Twenty-one patients remained on the 31st December.

The Leprosy Segregation Camp contained 31 patients at the beginning of 1937. During the year 15 patients were admitted, and 11 discharged as no longer infective: of the latter 4 were repatriated to Ethiopia. On the 31st December 35 patients remained. The camp is in no sense residential; only infective cases are admitted, and they are discharged whenever they cease to be a danger to others.

No cases of Rabies have occurred. A stock of anti-rabic vaccine is held, and all cases in which there is any suspicion are given a course of protective injections.

Five cases of Enteric Fever (of whom three were European Officers) occurred during the year. One was a case of Paratyphoid A, the other four being true Typhoid. All recovered.

Sixteen cases of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis were treated (6 deaths) during the year, of which 11 occurred in Hargeisa.

As no European dentist is available in the Protectorate, all European and non-European officers are permitted to visit Aden for dental treatment at Government expense, provided that they obtain medical certificates to the effect that the treatment is necessary and cannot be postponed without detriment to their health.

V.—HOUSING.

The normal Somali dwelling is the *gurgi*, a dome-shaped hut constructed of pliable stick framework and covered with native-made mats. The *gurgi* is movable and can be readily dismantled and packed on camels when a change of ground for any reason becomes necessary.

In the towns the trading Somali and the poorer class of Indian may sometimes be found living in an *arish* (wattle and daub hut).

The indiscriminate setting up of *gurgis* and other temporary dwellings within townships is not permitted, and is controlled by the District Officers, who may set aside areas in which such temporary habitations may be installed.

Government officers are housed in well-built stone and plaster houses. Berbera is the only town with a pipe-borne water supply available for public use, but water is laid on to Government quarters in Burao, Sheikh and Zeilah. In other stations, the sanitary arrangements are of a primitive, though satisfactory, character.

VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

Only about one-threehundredth of the Protectorate is under arable agriculture. The balance is pastoral land, and owing to scanty rainfall this proportion is likely to remain constant. No surveys are being carried out at present, though a rough survey has been made of the gum areas of Erigavo.

All cultivation is by natives, who, subject to Government permission, farm the land. By far the greater proportion of the populace is nomadic; sheep, goats and camels form their wealth.

Agricultural production in the Protectorate is limited to sorghum, maize, gram, beans, some wheat, and barley. Sheep are one of the main exportable commodities, their skins constituting one of the main items of production. Frankincense and myrrh are also important exports. The animal population is approximately as follows:—

Camels	1,500,000
Sheep	3,000,000
Goats	2,000,000
Cattle	40,000
Donkeys	500
Horses	800

It may safely be said that all agricultural produce is consumed locally, and that none other than livestock is exported.

Production is not organized in any way and is, subject to Government supervision, entirely in the hands of the native.

Water-boring.

At Burao, an installation was put in for the native town, including pipe-line, tank and taps. The installation for the civil and military establishment was duplicated and the delivery line replaced by a 3-inch main.

At Hargeisa, an installation was put in for the native town, and exhaustive drilling tests were carried out in the valley with a view to providing a permanent adequate supply for the civil establishment, outside the native town area. Water was obtained in all the holes. In some, however, the top stratum failed in the

dry season, in others the intermediate stratum contained so much flour-like silt that no method of screening that could be devised or obtained could exclude it from the hole. The supply in the bottom stratum was, of itself, insufficient to cope with the needs of the population. A deep borehole was put down to obtain a supply from the nubian sandstone, but the capacity of the rig was insufficient to allow of the nubian series being reached. An arrangement is being made to obtain the supply required either from two pumps drawing from the bottom stratum or from the native town locality.

At Ainabo, a shaft was sunk at the side of the water-hole in order to tap some of the supply to it (from springs), while leaving the water-hole itself entirely free for native use. A centrifugal pump was installed in the shaft, the suction connected to the water, and pipe-line and cement troughs were laid down well clear of the hole. A small tank was also connected to the pump for the use of the townspeople. A spare pump and engine were provided.

At Zeilah, tube-wells were driven in the Takusha Khor, a suction-line was laid to the bank and duplicate pumps and engines were installed to provide a supply of 1,000 gallons an hour to Zeilah township. An asbestos pipe-line with tank and taps was laid down by the Public Works Department.

At Borama, by sinking a shaft in the nullah bed, removing the large blocks of stone while keeping the water controlled by bailing and a pump, it was found to be possible to use a tube-well of special construction and large sectional area. Screened gravel was placed round the tube and perforated casing was laid across the surface stream at a depth of 18 inches in order to supplement the supply from the gravel. A suction line was installed, and a thorough test carried out by an engine pump. The building of the pump-house, and the laying of the pipe-line, etc., is being carried out by the Public Works Department. A supply of about 1,000 gallons an hour is being obtained without diminution of the surface stream, which is used by native stock.

At Tug Wajaleh, two new reinforced concrete troughs were built and arrangements were made to install a power plant on the three windmill pumps now in use.

The Well-Sinker has carried out work in accordance with the conditions of his appointment as set out in last year's report. He has sunk a shaft at Kirrit so that the supply can be obtained by drawing from the surface; sunk shafts at Jif-Jif and Ainabo; opened up a supply at Dirbiyeda and Gosawein; greatly improved the supply at El Dab by means of a shaft on the side of the old filthy well, and by sinking three other wells He has carried out part of a programme of work at Erigavo designed to explore the possibility of obtaining adequate

supplies for a pumping plant within easy distance of the township. This work was not completed by the end of the year. In addition, he has given assistance and advice to District Officers in their efforts to improve existing supplies by administrative action.

Finally, a thorough examination has been made of all the wells in the Burao and Borama-Zeilah districts, which, in the opinion of the District Officers, could be improved by administrative action. Detailed reports on the form and extent of improvement recommended in each case were drawn up by the Geologist in charge and submitted to the Government. Already the amount of water and the facilities for getting it have been considerably increased in various parts of the Burao District.

Fisheries.

Tropical fish of every variety, such as shark, great and small rays, barracuda and other sphyraenae, durab or wolf-herring, dolphins, sea perches, sword-fish, rock cod, different species of sardinella, tunny, mullets, horse-mackerel, king-fish, crawfish, and bêche-de-mer (trepang) are abundant. The few natives engaged in the fishery industry use only a handline with a single hook for trolling and bottom fishing and a light casting net to obtain bait. There is no co-operation between them, and they sail out in their canoes to the fishing grounds only when dire necessity compels them. If one is exceptionally successful and realizes a substantial profit, he ceases to labour for as many days as it would have taken him to accumulate this sum from his average daily earnings. Consequently, the local supply of fish on sale in the towns is considerably less than the actual demand. A few passing shark-fishing dhows, manned by Arabs, Sudanese, and Dankalis, occasionally stop at the ports to net sharks in the harbour and in the open sea. After completing the operation of salting the fins for the Chinese market and the flesh for the consumption of their countrymen, and extracting the "*seefa*" or liver oil which is used for caulking native craft, they resume their voyage.

Since foreign dhows have been excluded from fishing within French and Italian territorial waters, a number of native dhows have been withdrawn from the mother-of-pearl and trochee shell fisheries. Within the limit to which the divers are now restricted they cannot collect a sufficient quantity to realize a profit. Although the gamble of obtaining a valuable gem after opening thousands of shells will always provide an incentive to engage in the industry, yet it is from the sale of the mother-of-pearl that the divers derive their maintenance.

Licences to fish and to dive for pearls are obligatory for all fishermen, other than natives of British Somaliland or persons

ordinarily resident therein. The rates are Rs.50 and Rs.100 per annum respectively. These licences were introduced by the Fisheries Ordinance, 1934, to regulate the activities of visiting foreign fishermen in the territorial waters of the Protectorate.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The Protectorate being mainly pastoral and inhabited by a nomadic stock-raising people, the external trade consists mainly of exports of sheep and goats and the skins of these animals, while the principal imports are articles of native consumption and clothing, namely, rice, dates and sugar, and textile goods.

The internal trade is small since production is not for home consumption, but ghee (clarified butter), another important item of native diet, is made in quantity and is sold in the markets.

Exports of skins represent 68 per cent. of the total. The trade in skins is usually of a regular order being based on a steady demand from the European and American markets. In the years 1936 and 1937 the trade was particularly good owing to exceptional demands from the United States of America.

The following tables give particulars of the domestic trade of the Protectorate:—

VALUE.

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£
1933	284,308	145,978	430,286
1934	269,050	137,430	406,480
1935	272,028	127,459	399,487
1936	425,235	195,420	620,655
1937	535,211	279,942	815,153

The large increase in imports in 1936 and 1937 has been due to the improved export trade and to the Italian occupation of Ethiopia, Somaliland having been a channel of supply to the eastern provinces of that country.

Imports.

(1) *Percentage of trade.*

Country	*1933*	*1934*	*1935*	*1936*	*1937*
United Kingdom	23·8	24·3	29·3	29·6	24·9
India	—	49·9	44·1	39·2	44·2
British Empire—Other parts	52·8	2·0	2·2	2·0	2·9
Egypt	23·4	3·2	4·9	2·9	3·1
Japan		8·0	8·6	12·1	7·3
Persian Gulf... ...		6·4	6·1	4·3	5·9
United States of America		3·1	3·0	6·2	7·7
Other foreign countries		3·1	1·8	3·7	4·0

(2) *Principal Commodities and their sources.*

Article	*Unit*	*Country of Origin*	*1936*		*1937*	
			Quantity	*Value*	*Quantity*	*Value*
Textiles				£		£
Grey Sheeting	yds.	Japan ...	297,734	4,484	292,574	4,814
		India ...	849,870	12,118	791,120	10,502
White Long Cloth.	,,	United Kingdom	1,932,859	38,965	2,089,781	39,776
		Japan ...	65,125	1,219	61,015	1,161
Dates	cwt.	Persian Gulf	51,684	17,680	94,709	31,640
Rice	,,	India ...	153,851	73,700	252,955	114,301
Sugar	,,	United Kingdom	98,206	43,312	128,259	54,368
		Russia...	1,081	538	9,941	4,783

Exports.

Principal Commodities.

Article	*Unit*	*1936*		*1937*	
		Quantity	*Value*	*Quantity*	*Value*
			£		£
Sheep and Goats ...	Nos.	104,663	48,767	116,926	58,423
Skins	,,	1,301,419	109,345	1,519,614	163,009
Gums	Cwt.	11,939	12,092	12,953	17,609

The final destination of exports cannot be stated since shipments are to Aden and Jibuti whence consignments are despatched to other markets.

Coin and Notes.

Statistics of Imports and Exports of coin and notes are not available. The export of specie is prohibited except under the authority of the Treasurer.

Transit Traffic.

The value of the goods in transit to and from Ethiopia was

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£
1933	39,522	47,032	86,554
1934	47,400	55,596	102,996
1935	53,463	75,740	129,203
1936	19,782	26,007	45,789
1937	150,230	6,879	157,109

The traffic in 1937 was operated under arrangements made with the Government of Harar, and commenced in June.

VIII.—LABOUR.

There are no organized industries in the Somaliland Protectorate and commercial enterprise is limited. The demand for labour is small, and such labour as is required is chiefly confined to casual labour. This casual labour (coolies) is employed mainly on road work throughout the country. There are, at Berbera and Zeilah, about 100 wharf labourers. These labourers, while employed throughout most of the year, still fall into the category of casual labour.

The Public Works Department is perhaps the biggest employer of labour, both skilled and unskilled, the number in continuous employment being rather less than 300. In addition to this figure, it is estimated that a further 300 receive temporary employment on roads at certain seasons of the year. These figures do not include extraordinary road construction, such as the Tug Wajaleh—Berbera road construction, which was undertaken to carry the Italian transit traffic, and which gave monthly employment to approximately 500 coolies from May to December in 1937. There is some demand for masons and carpenters. A considerable number of Arabs is included in this class of skilled worker, although the number of Somali artisans is increasing. There is a fair amount of private building under construction in various parts of the Protectorate, chiefly by traders, both Somali and Indian. The increase in building construction has been brought about largely by the improved trading conditions prevailing during 1937, and has, in its turn, created some demand for artisans.

There has been a considerable increase in the number of commercial motor transport vehicles, and it is estimated that those directly engaged in the conduct and maintenance of these vehicles cannot number less than 600. Trade and commerce give further employment to a number of Somalis, both those who trade on their own account, and those who are employed by Indian and Arab merchants, the latter mainly as labourers. The available supply of Somali clerical workers is absorbed almost entirely by Government, and the clerical work of the larger Indian firms is carried on by their own Indian employees.

If any large scale industrial development were proposed in the Protectorate, requiring labour in large numbers, a prior examination of the available sources of labour would be wise. The Somali has not yet become accustomed to regular manual labour, and the bulk of the population still leads the traditional pastoral life.

There is no recruitment of labour for service abroad, but the interests of labourers who might be so recruited are protected by the Native Labour Ordinance.

The Employers' Liability Ordinance (Chapter 60 of the Revised Edition of the Laws) prescribes conditions under which an employer is liable for injury caused to an employee by reason of any defect in any machinery or plant used in the business of the employer or by the negligence of the employer or his agent or any person superintending work on behalf of the employer or to whose directions the employee was bound to conform at the time of the injury. The maximum compensation recoverable under the Ordinance is a sum equivalent to the estimated earnings during the three years preceding the injury of a person in the same grade employed during three years in like employment with the proviso that in the case of Somalis the sum recoverable in the case of death resulting from the injury shall not exceed the amount recognised by local custom under Mohammedan Law.

Under Section 24 of the Master and Servant Ordinance every employer is obliged to provide his employees with proper medicines during illness and during serious illness with medical attention if procurable. The obligation, however, does not extend to cases in which the illness is caused by the neglect or default of the employee. There is no legislative provision for benefit to employees on account of old age.

There are no factories in the Protectorate and no legislation governing factories is in force.

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The approximate wages of Somalis, other than those enrolled in the Somaliland Camel Corps or Somaliland Police, who are employed as clerks or subordinates in Government departments or as coolies are:—

Clerks, Rs.40 to Rs.350 a month (according to grade).
Motor drivers, Rs.35 to Rs.100 a month.
Coolies, 10 annas a day (8 hours).
Personal servants, Rs.15 to Rs.45 a month.
Interpreters, Rs.40 to Rs.85 a month.

The staple food of the Somali in Government employ is a daily ration composed of 1 lb. rice, ½ lb. dates, and 2 ounces of ghee, the value of which is usually about 3 annas.

The average cost of living for Europeans is about Rs.5 (7s. 6d.) a head a day for a married couple. For one adult the cost would be relatively higher. The figure given does not include servants' wages, cost of entertaining, or club expenses.

X.—EDUCATION, WELFARE INSTITUTIONS, AND RECREATION.

Education.

There have been indications during the last few years that the instinctive opposition of the Somalis to secular education for their children is losing strength. The Education Scheme, commenced in 1930 and referred to in previous reports, continues to show fair results. During 1937 small grants of money and school materials were made to the Koranic schools at Berbera, Borama, Burao, Erigavo and Hargeisa.

There are three Somali boys being educated at the Gordon College, Khartoum; two of them are expected to return to the Protectorate early in 1938. In addition, two Somali boys were sent in 1937 to Bakht El Ruda Training College, Sudan, to undergo a four-year course of training as elementary school teachers. All these boys are educated partly at Government expense and partly at the expense of the relatives of the boys.

There is a small Government elementary school at Berbera, attended by Somali, Arab and Indian children. It is probable that a European Superintendent of Education will be appointed in 1938 and that the increased facilities for education in Berbera, to which reference was made in the 1936 Report, will actually be made available.

Welfare Institutions.

There are no welfare institutions in British Somaliland, but a camp is maintained at Berbera for the accommodation and feeding of destitute Somalis. At the end of the year, 74 persons were being maintained in the camp.

Recreation.

There are primitive golf courses at most stations in the Protectorate, and tennis is played at all stations. There are cricket pitches at Berbera and Burao which are used when sufficient enthusiasts are gathered together. The greatest activity in this direction occurs on the occasions when the Protectorate is visited by one of His Majesty's ships.

The Somali is a fine natural athlete, and takes eagerly to cricket, football, and hockey. Football and hockey pitches have been provided at all stations in commemoration of the Coronation of King George VI, and they are well patronized.

The big and small game of the country provide excellent sport, and there is good sea fishing to be had on the coast. Riding is popular, and wart hog which abound in most places, afford opportunities for pig-sticking. Polo is played regularly by the Somaliland Camel Corps.

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

There is a weekly service with Aden, which is worked by local contract, the ships connecting at Aden with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's outward and homeward bound ships.

The following is a comparative table of the steam and motor vessels and country craft shipping which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the last five years:—

	1933.		*1934.*		*1935.*		*1936.*		*1937.*	
	Nos.	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*
Entered ...	687	58,306	772	69,530	684	75,060	505	57,287	634	110,233
Cleared ...	637	57,898	726	68,961	678	75,997	486	55,921	610	109,843

Roads.

There are no railways in the Protectorate, and all transport is by road.

The roads, of which some 2,000 miles are open for wheeled traffic, are classed as Main or Trunk Roads and District Roads. The former are maintained by the Public Works Department and the latter by the District Administration.

They are suitable for general traffic and for vehicles of medium weight up to two tons carrying capacity, but are subject to weather conditions, becoming at times impassable, particularly at river crossings, in the rainy seasons.

The principal main routes are:—

(i) Berbera to Burao via Sheikh ... ... 90 miles
(ii) Berbera to Tug Wajaleh (Frontier Post) via Hargeisa 168 ,,
(iii) A branch road from Tug Wajaleh to Borama... ... 30 ,,
(iv) Burao to Erigavo via Ainabo and Adad ... ... 236 ,,

A lateral road of importance also connects Burao and Hargeisa *via* Oadweina, 123½ miles.

During 1937, to give effect to the Rome Agreement with the Italian Government, special measures were taken to make substantial improvements in the road from Berbera to Tug Wajaleh to facilitate Italian transport traffic of goods in transit from the Protectorate port at Berbera to the Ethiopian frontier post. By the end of December, 1937, the road was improved to a considerable extent and was rendered fit to carry traffic, as stipulated in the Agreement, up to 200 tons, per day.

The more important District Roads are:—

(1) Nogal system, 340 miles, connecting Ainabo, Bohotleh, Las Anod and Bihen.

(2) Ain Valley, 177 miles, connecting Ainabo, Hudin and Halin.
(3) Burao to Eik and the Southern boundary.
(4) Hargeisa to Gibileh and the Southern boundary.
(5) Borama to Zeilan *via* Dobo Pass, 135 miles.
(6) Erigavo to Baran and Las War War, 274 miles.

Motor Transport.

Motor traffic along the main commercial routes, from Berbera to Jijiga *via* Hargeisa, and Berbera to Erigavo *via* Burao, again showed an increase in 1937.

Vehicles of British and Empire manufacture were imported in greater numbers, particularly from Canada, since facilities for obtaining spare parts through agencies in Berbera and Aden have recently improved. No repair workshops or service depôts have, however, been established in the Protectorate.

The numbers of motor vehicles in use, other than Government vehicles, were:—

Private cars	51
Commercial cars	316

The importations of vehicles in the Protectorate during the year were:—

Private	16
Commercial	231

The following statement shows the countries of origin of the licensed motor vehicles in the Protectorate:—

British Empire	187
United States of America	176
French	1
Italian	3

The Government vehicles are:—

Morris, 25 Cwt. Commercial	4
Morris, "Oxford" Tourer (His Excellency the Governor's car)	1
Humber, "Snipe" Saloon (His Excellency the Governor's car)	1
Ford, V–8 Tourer	1
Ford, V–8 30 Cwt. Trucks	6

The Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, and the Somaliland Civil Police have a number of trucks on their charge.

Posts and Telegraphs.

The headquarters of the Posts and Telegraphs Department are at Berbera.

The revenue and expenditure of the Department in respect of the last five years was as follows:—

	1937.	1936.	1935.	1934.	1933.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue	12,717	2,358	4,881	1,139	1,223
Expenditure ...	10,137	7,084	7,471	6,949	7,067

The Indian Post Office Act, 1898, was applied to British Somaliland by an order of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs dated 9th March, 1903, and the Protectorate Post Office was transferred from the Indian Administration and constituted under the above authority on the 1st June, 1903, the Protectorate becoming a member of the International Postal Union.

The operations against the Dervishes in 1903 necessitated the establishment of a number of Field Post Offices, the mails being carried by runners and camel riders. This system was maintained till 1925 for the conveyance of mails between the administrative stations in the interior, and, in the absence of railways and motor cars, proved generally a cheap, reliable and comparatively speedy service.

In 1925, a weekly motor car mail service was inaugurated, connecting Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, Erigavo, Borama and Hargeisa. Zeilah mails are conveyed by sea and certain other places are served by mail runners.

Direct mails, which are exchanged weekly with London, Aden, and Bombay, are carried by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's mail steamers, regular connexions with which are made by local contract steamers between Aden and Berbera. Letters to and from the United Kingdom are delivered within from 12 to 14 days. There is no air mail service in operation.

The following are the denominations of postage stamps on sale in the Protectorate:—

Annas, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12.
Rupees, 1, 2, 3, 5.

To mark the occasion of Their Majesties' Coronation a special series of postage stamps in the 1 anna, 2 anna and 3 anna denominations was issued.

The issue and payment of British postal orders were introduced in January, 1905, and during the same year arrangements were made with the British and Indian Post Offices for a direct exchange of money orders. A direct Telegraph Money Order Service between the Protectorate and the United Kingdom was introduced in 1916. In 1907, the cash on delivery and insurance of parcels, and the value payable and insurance of parcels, etc., services were introduced with Great Britain and India, including Aden, and in the following year the insured letter service to Great Britain was commenced. The

insured box service with Great Britain and certain other countries was introduced in 1926. The direct exchange of money orders with the Kenya and Uganda Administration, which had been introduced in 1910, was suspended in 1921 on account of exchange difficulties. Money orders to and from the East African Dependencies are exchanged through the intermediary of the Aden Post Office.

The present telegraph administration is the result of expansion and improvement of the military telegraphs used in connexion with the operations of the Somaliland Field Force in 1903, with subsequently the addition of wireless telegraphy.

A telegraph line connects Berbera with Sheikh and Burao, which are also served by telephone.

Wireless stations (1½ kilowatt) are in operation at Berbera, Borama, Burao, Erigavo and Hargeisa. The Zeilah station was closed in December, 1934.

All stations are open to the public for inland and foreign telegrams. The charge on inland telegrams is two annas per word without a minimum. The charges on foreign telegrams were revised in June, 1934. The principal full-rate charges are as follows:—

8 annas per word without a minimum to Aden.

Rs.1-15-0* per word without a minimum to the United Kingdom.

Rs.1-10-0* per word without a minimum to India.

The Daily Letter Telegram Service was introduced in 1933.

A service of telegrams conveying Christmas and New Year wishes (greeting telegrams) is admissible during the period from 14th December to 6th January, inclusive.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The following major works were carried out during the year:—

School building at Berbera.
Abattoir for sheep, goats and camels at Berbera.
Bungalow for Medical Officer, Burao.
Customs House, Las Anod.

A general programme of small works was also carried out during the year and necessary repairs to and upkeep of Government buildings were undertaken.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

There is no Judicial or Legal Department in the Protectorate, but in 1935 a Legal Secretary was appointed whose duties are to advise the Governor on matters of law in all Court cases, to

* Half this rate is charged for deferred telegrams.

act as Registrar of the Protectorate Court, to advise the Governor on the legal aspects of all Government business, to draft legislation and to assist generally in the work of the Secretariat. The Criminal Courts consist of the Protectorate Court, District Courts of the first class, and District Courts of the second class. The Governor and Secretary to the Government are the judges of the Protectorate Court. During the absence of the Governor or the Secretary to the Government, certain Protectorate Court cases may be tried by a District Officer specially empowered under Ordinance No. 3 of 1933. District Courts of the first class are held by District Officers and such other officers as the Governor may so empower. District Courts of the second class are held by those officers so empowered by the Governor. The District Courts are empowered by law to try all cases in which natives are parties except for sedition, treason or offences punishable with death. Cases beyond the jurisdiction of the District Courts, or possessing features which make a trial by the Protectorate Court desirable, are committed by the District Court for trial by the Protectorate Court. There is no trial by jury, but the Protectorate Court when trying cases under its original jurisdiction sits with three assessors. At the conclusion of a case each assessor gives his opinion. In cases where appeals lie from judgments of District Courts, the appeal is to the Protectorate Court sitting as a Court of Appeal, which is the final Appellate Court in the Protectorate.

The law of the Protectorate is:—

(*a*) Coded law, i.e., Local Ordinances and a number of British and Indian Acts which have been applied to the Protectorate.

The more important of these Acts are the Indian Penal Code, the Indian Evidence Act, the Indian Contract Act, the Indian Stamp Act, the Indian Code of Civil Procedure, the Indian Limitation Act. The procedure in Criminal Courts is in accordance with the Administration of Criminal Justice Ordinance (Chapter 4 of the Revised Edition of the Laws), which closely resembles the Indian Criminal Procedure Code.

(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan law.

A stricter legal control is now exercised. In past years, murder and homicide among the natives were dealt with under tribal custom, but such crimes are now tried by the Criminal Courts.

In addition to Criminal and Civil cases under (*a*), tribal cases are investigated and judged by District Courts under a mixture of tribal custom, Mohammedan law and Indian law. This work forms the great bulk of the District Officers' work, since the Somali's inherent love of litigation and refusal to accept any decision except from the highest court of appeal lead to much work of a trivial nature which, if neglected, may result in

inter-tribal fighting. The Kadis deal with cases falling entirely under Mohammedan law, and Courts of Akils or Elders have been set up to deal with the less important and contentious of tribal cases.

Crime.

The following summary shows the amount of crime in the Protectorate for 1937, as compared with the previous year:—

	1937	*1936*
Convictions for murder	2	5
Persons executed	2	—
Offences against the person	328	242
Offences against property	306	255
Other offences	1,189	824

Police.

The Somaliland Civil Police are constituted under the Somaliland Civil Police Ordinance. The force is under the control of the Governor, and has an establishment of four European officers, four Somali officers, and some 550 other ranks. Rank and file in stations other than Berbera are under the charge of District Officers.

Garrison duties are carried out by the force at Berbera, Erigavo, Zeilah, and Borama. The police are liable to serve as a military force when called upon by the Governor to do so.

Prisons.

The established prisons in the Protectorate are the Central Prison in Berbera and five District Prisons at Zeilah, Burao, Hargeisa, Borama, and Erigavo, respectively.

The Central Prison accommodates all convicts sentenced to terms of imprisonment exceeding six months, in addition to all prisoners convicted in the Berbera District.

The District Prisons accommodate prisoners convicted within Districts and sentenced to imprisonment for six months or less.

Since 1930 the Commandant (now Commissioner) of Police has been Director of Prisons with powers of inspection of all prisons in the Protectorate, and, further, with power to appoint a European officer, subject to the approval of the Governor, to be in responsible charge of the Berbera Prison for the purpose of carrying out the regulations made under the Prison Discipline Ordinance, 1918. The administration of District Prisons is in the hands of District Officers.

The Central Prison occupies an area of some 6,700 square yards, the whole being surrounded by a stone wall from 11 to 17 feet high. Accommodation is provided for male, female, and juvenile convicts. In addition to the usual wards and cells, the prison is equipped with a dispensary, two sick wards capable of accommodating four lying-in cases, a workshop, and the usual offices. The prison is lighted by electricity.

Committals to the Central Prison during 1937, as compared with the three preceding years, were as follows:—

Year.	*For want of bail or for debt.*	*For penal imprisonment.*
1937	10	251
1936	11	152
1935	7	201
1934	6	216

The bulk of the labour provided by the prisoners is unskilled, and is used on works of public utility such as road-making, quarrying stones, watering trees, etc.

A certain amount of skilled labour is carried out in the Central Prison, where long-sentence prisoners are taught to manufacture and repair articles of use to other departments. The manufacture of cane furniture for the Public Works Department is the main industry. Several prisoners are employed as masons and carpenters.

The Central Prison is visited at least once in every two months by the Visiting Justices.

Section 2 of the Administration of Criminal Justice (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931, provides that no young person under the age of 16 years shall be sentenced to imprisonment, if the court considers that suitable punishment can be imposed in some other way by placing on probation, or fine or corporal punishment, or committal to a place of detention, or otherwise. Local conditions do not permit of the institution of a regular probation system.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

During 1937 30 Ordinances were enacted. Of these the following are the more important measures:—

The Political Cases (Attachment of Livestock) Ordinance (No. 3 of 1937) empowers the Governor to order the attachment of stock of the members of a tribe or sub-tribe in cases where such members are by native law and custom liable to satisfy the order of a Court and such order has not been satisfied within three months. Power is also conferred upon the Governor to order the attachment of livestock before judgment in cases where a District Court has reason to believe that such members of a tribe or sub-tribe are about to remove livestock from the Protectorate in order to defeat the ends of justice.

The Natives' Betrothal and Marriage (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 4 of 1937) exempts from the penalties prescribed by section 2 of the principal Ordinance a man who goes through a ceremony of marriage with a woman holding

a divorce certificate granted by a Kadi employed by the Government, and also vests in the District Officer the discretion to defer, pending further inquiry, an application by a woman to register her refusal of a betrothal in cases where the District Officer is not satisfied that such application is made voluntarily.

The Control of Fugitive Belligerents Ordinance (*No.* 6 *of* 1937) makes provision for the establishment and control of internment camps for members or followers of the Ethiopian or Italian troops who, during or after the period of hostilities between Ethiopia and Italy, took refuge in the Protectorate.

The Ports (*Amendment*) *Ordinance* (*No.* 7 *of* 1937) effects various minor amendments in the Ports Ordinance (Chapter 51) rendered necessary by changing conditions in the port of Berbera. It also prescribes a licence for firms carrying on a lighterage business.

The King's African Rifles Reserve Forces Ordinance (*No.* 10 *of* 1937) makes provision for the establishment of a reserve force normally to consist of men who have completed a period of service in the King's African Rifles.

The Alcoholic Liquors Ordinance (*No.* 11 *of* 1937) makes provision generally for the sale of alcoholic liquors and subject to certain exceptions prohibits the possession of alcoholic liquor by natives. The Ordinance repeals earlier enactments governing the subject.

The Indian Penal Code (*Modification*) *Ordinance* (*No.* 12 *of* 1937) amends the law applicable to the Protectorate so as to conform with the provisions of the International Convention for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency.

The Traffic Ordinance (*No.* 13 *of* 1937) repeals all earlier enactments governing motor traffic. Section 31 provides that as from the 17th March, 1938, the Ordinance shall be deemed to be qualified by the provisions of the International Convention relative to Motor Traffic signed at Paris on the 24th April, 1926.

The Customs Ordinance (*No.* 15 *of* 1937) constitutes a complete revision of the Customs law repealing all earlier enactments.

The Kadis' Courts Ordinance (*No.* 17 *of* 1937) provides for the establishment and jurisdiction of Kadis' Courts, the supervision of such Courts by the District Courts and Protectorate Court, and prescribes the procedure governing appeals from Kadis' Courts and the execution of their Orders.

The Coinage Ordinance (*No.* 25 *of* 1937) makes provision for coinage in the Protectorate, taking the place of the Somaliland Coinage Order, 1917. That Order was repealed

by the Somaliland Coinage Order, 1937, under which power is conferred upon the Governor to effect legislation on currency matters by Ordinance. The Ordinance follows in the main the provisions of the Somaliland Coinage Order, 1917, and adds to the coins which are legal tender in the Protectorate the eight anna, four anna and two anna nickel coins of British India.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a branch of the commercial firm of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, Bombay, accepts deposits from private individuals, cashes cheques drawn on them, and arranges the transfer of funds to the United Kingdom and elsewhere through a branch of the firm at Aden.

The Government Savings Bank continues to gain ground. The rate of interest paid remains at 2½ per cent., and depositors from all classes of the community are taking advantage of the facilities offered. The number of depositors increased in the year from 241 to 295.

Currency.

The monetary unit is the Government of India rupee at one shilling and sixpence. Rupees are legal tender for the payment of any amount and Government of India subsidiary coinage is legal tender for the payment of sums not in excess of five rupees. India Government Currency Notes are in circulation.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial standard of weights and measures is in force. The Indian and Somali traders also use certain of the weights and measures in force in British India.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The finances of the Protectorate maintained the improvement which was shown in 1936 and the gross revenue exceeded expenditure by £1,600.

This result was achieved from abnormal Customs revenue, the Italian occupation of Ethiopia having created a large if temporary market for all the main classes of goods regularly imported into the Protectorate which became a channel of supply for the frontier areas in which considerable shortage of most goods was being felt.

No new forms of taxation were introduced during 1937 and preferential tariffs in favour of Empire goods continued in force.

Revenue.

The revenue from all sources amounted to £214,749, an increase of over £50,000 as compared with the previous year. The following table shows the principal sources of revenue for the years 1933-7:—

Year.	*Customs.*	*Licences and Taxes.*	*Court Fees and Government Services.*	*Other.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£	£
1933 ...	73,318	22,347	10,645	5,576*	111,886
1934 ...	71,279	20,111	10,737	4,042*	106,169
1935 ...	72,093	16,360	12,444	18,079*	118,976
1936 ...	121,995	18,341	11,360	12,840*	164,536
1937 ...	153,674	21,938	22,303†	16,834*	214,749

* Includes receipts from the Colonial Development Fund.
† Includes £11,000 from sale of Coronation issue of postage stamps.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure amounted to £213,139 and exceeded that of 1936 by £5,949. The following table shows the expenditure by main classes for the years 1933-7:—

Year.	*Civil Administration.*	*Military.*	*Public Works.*	*Colonial Development Fund.*	*Special Precautionary Measures.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1933 ...	110,779	39,761	769	2,511	—	153,820
1934 ...	119,816	41,068	2,675	4,097	—	167,656
1935 ...	113,240	49,226	3,464	10,798	10,850	187,578
1936 ...	113,143	44,075	1,239	8,462	40,271	207,190
1937 ...	126,300	46,170	7,171	7,942	25,556	213,139

Public Debt.

The net sum due by the Protectorate to the Imperial Treasury on 31st December, 1937, was £236,000 representing the total of loans-in-aid of civil expenditure for the period 1921 to 1934. Loans-in-aid are subject to repayment with interest as and when the finances of the Protectorate permit. No repayment has yet been made.

Since 1935 the Imperial Exchequer assistance to the Protectorate has been in the form of free grants-in-aid which amounted in 1936 and 1937 to £30,000 and £14,000 respectively.

In addition, grants of £23,000 and £30,000 have been received to finance the expenditure upon special precautionary measures necessitated by the Italo-Ethiopian war.

Financial Position at 31st December, 1937.

	£	£
Surplus on 1st January, 1937		30,749
Surplus, Civil	72,139	
Deficit, Military	44,973	
		27,166
Surplus		57,915
Expenditure upon Special Precautionary Measures		25,556
Surplus		32,359
Grant in Aid	14,000	
„ „ „ Special Expenditure	30,000	
		44,000
Surplus at 31st December, 1937 ...		£76,359

Customs Duties.

Authority.—The Customs Ordinance, 1937, and the Alcoholic Liquors Ordinance, 1937.

The Customs duties are classified under two heads:—

(*a*) Specific Duties;

(*b*) *Ad Valorem* Duties.

The value at which *ad valorem* duty is assessed is:—

(*a*) in accordance with the valuation made from time to time by the Chief of Customs based on the prevailing market prices less duties of Customs, and approved by the Governor. This valuation is published in a tariff open for inspection at each Custom House;

(*b*) where no provision is made in the tariff:—

(i) in the case of imports, the wholesale cash price less trade discount for which goods of the like kind and quality are sold or are capable of being sold at the time and place of importation without any abatement or deduction except the amount of duties payable on the importation thereof;

(ii) in the case of exports, the prevailing market price at the port of exportation as ascertained by the Chief of Customs.

Tariff.

Imports.

Specific Duties:—	*Ordinary Rate.* Rs. as. ps.	*Preferential Rate.* Rs. as. ps.
Alcoholic Liquors, per gallon	13 3 0	12 0 0
Rice, per 168 lb.	2 12 0	2 8 0
Sugar, per 28 lb.	1 0 0	0 12 0
Dates, per 168 lb.	1 12 0	—
Grey Sheeting, per 750 yds.	77 0 0	38 8 0
White Long Cloth, per 40 yds.	5 8 0	4 0 0
Matches per standard box	0 0 4	0 0 3
Matches per large box	0 0 8	0 0 6
Currants, Greek, per cwt.	1 0 0	—
Rubber soled footwear, with leather upper parts, per dozen pairs	22 0 0	6 0 0

Ad Valorem Duties:—

	Ordinary Rate.	*Preferential Rate.*
Rice (certain varieties), building materials, mats, matting and native pottery, naphthaline,* fresh, dried and preserved fruit and vegetables, fresh and preserved provisions.	20 per cent.	10 per cent.
Live stock and all other goods, with certain exceptions	25 per cent.	15 per cent.

* If of British origin is free of Customs Duty.

Exports.

Live stock and local produce with certain exceptions	10 per cent.

The preferential rates of duty are extended to articles produced or manufactured in and consigned from the British Empire.

The following are the customs ports and frontier customs stations at which the above import and export duties are collected:—

Customs Ports.—Berbera, Zeilah, Las Khoreh, Heis, and Elayu.

Frontier Customs Stations.—Zeilah, Elayu, Hargeisa, Gibileh, Borama, and Tug Wajaleh (goods in transit only).

Subject to certain exceptions, a rebate of half of the Protectorate rates is allowed on all goods exported from Zeilah, and two-thirds on all goods imported at Zeilah for consumption within the administrative district of Zeilah.

Goods in Transit.

(*a*) Transit duty.—On all goods imported in transit to and from Ethiopia, 1½ per cent. *ad valorem*.

(*b*) Valuation.—Where the value of goods imported in transit is not fixed by tariff the value is the wholesale cash price as provided for domestic imports or, in the cases where no local market exists, it is based on invoiced values.

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Lands and Survey.

All land in the Protectorate except in proclaimed townships may be said to be vested in the Somali tribes. Outside the townships no individual title to land is recognized (except in the case of a few small religious settlements) nor is any sectional title to any particular area recognized as giving any particular section of the tribe an exclusive right to that area. It is the habit of certain sections always to graze in the same area and

this in practice gives them a prescriptive title to that area, but theoretically and legally individuals of other sections have the right to enter such areas and to use the grazing as necessity dictates. In the western part of the Protectorate, where large areas of ground are under cultivation, the tribal title has been restricted to the extent that the right of individual cultivators to the enjoyment of the area cultivated is recognized, but only so long as effective cultivation is continued.

Government has taken powers to expropriate land for public purposes, on payment of compensation for damage done thereby to an individual or section. Land so expropriated becomes Crown Land.

The township areas are divided into two classes:—

(*a*) old-established towns on the coast, such as Berbera and Zeilah; and

(*b*) recently established towns in the interior.

In class (*a*), the matter has been allowed to remain undefined. In practice, disputes as to ownership seldom arise.

In class (*b*), Government has introduced legislation to give to individuals a valid title to ground. All townships are of such recent growth that, except in five small plots in Hargeisa, no claim to freehold has been established, and leases or temporary occupation licences have been given to such of the present occupiers as wish to secure a legal title to their land.

Rainfall.

The rainfall was again up to the average and fairly well distributed in most areas, with the result that grazing was adequate throughout the Protectorate, and Government was not called upon to take any abnormal measures for the relief of destitution.

Political Situation.

Since the British Somali tribes have so far continued to enjoy their right to graze and water in Ethiopia and Italian Somaliland and their customary trans-frontier trade facilities, the occupation of Ethiopia by Italy has not caused any embarrassment to the inhabitants of the Protectorate.

The past year may be regarded as having been, on the whole, a period of peace and prosperity throughout the Protectorate.

Berbera District.—The introduction of organized transit traffic between Berbera and Ethiopia has resulted in an increased demand for labour. The local coolies, quick to appreciate the situation, not only demanded increased rates of pay from time to time, but also displayed a tendency to resent reprimand or criticism of indifferent work, and occasionally resorted to "strike" methods. By the end of the year, however, much of the friction had disappeared, and there is no reason to believe that serious difficulty will be encountered in future.

The possibilities of profit from the trans-frontier traffic appears to be weaning Somalis from their traditional belief that livestock is the only satisfactory form of wealth. There are many instances of stock-owners having sold the bulk of their livestock to invest in motor vehicles, and by the autumn more than a hundred Somali motor owners were in contract with the Italian transit traffic authorities.

There has been no change in the local attitude to the occupation of Ethiopia, as described in the previous Report.

Despite the somewhat pessimistic outlook of the local traders at the close of 1936 the past year has been fairly prosperous. As anticipated, the trans-frontier trade declined in consequence of the transit traffic agreement, but this was to some extent offset by increased domestic demand for foodstuffs, clothing, and livestock.

Towards the end of the year livestock and skin prices were falling in Berbera, due, it is said, to a temporary preference for Zeilah as a market, better prices being obtainable there owing to the activities of foreign buyers from Jibuti. As a result money is scarce here and the food and clothing trade is beginning to suffer. The general opinion of the more responsible merchants is that there will be an improvement after the first quarter of 1938.

Burao District.—The Italian occupation of the grazing areas south of the frontier continues to exercise a strong influence on the outlook of the Burao tribespeople, of whom at least three-quarters are accustomed to graze their flocks and herds across the frontier for some months in each year. During the year the Italian authorities exercised their control with tact, and have shown a desire to interfere as little as possible with the tribal life of the natives. The occupation has undoubtedly had a restraining effect on the Somali, and there has been, in consequence, a marked decline in inter-tribal strife. The disarmament by the Italian authorities of the tribes south of the frontier has created a considerable traffic in arms which have been bartered to certain British protected tribes which do not normally graze across the frontier.

Attention must also be called to the growing spirit of cohesion amongst the town-dwelling Somalis, which has manifested itself in the formation and growth of the Nadi Club in Burao. At present the club's activities are non-political and it will be interesting to note its future progress.

Trade continued to be good throughout the year. The improved trade is due first of all to good prices resulting from more money being in circulation, and this has led to the acquisition by Somalis of numbers of motor lorries which in turn have opened up even the remote parts of the district. The Burao zariba returns of £2,236 were the largest since the zariba was started in 1924.

Hargeisa District.—At the beginning of 1937 the tribes were apprehensive of the effect of the Italian occupation of Ethiopia as they were afraid that they might not be allowed to retain their grazing rights across the frontier. The Anglo-Italian meeting held at Hargeisa in March for the purpose of arranging working details in connexion with the Rome Agreement of January, 1937, cleared the air considerably, and the grazing and water agreement arrived at has worked very well during the year under review. The restrictions imposed by the Italians have not caused undue inconvenience to the British Somali tribes, and, except for individuals and small parties being detained at posts where the officer-in-charge considered they had more goods with them than could be considered to be personal effects, they have been allowed to pass over by any road.

Nothing of special moment occurred during the year under review and, apart from small incidents, the tribes have remained quiet.

Trade, which had increased to a very large extent when the Italians first occupied Ethiopia, was reduced to nearly normal conditions during the year under review owing to the restrictions imposed by the Italians. The embargo on the export of lire also contributed to the decline.

The demand for building plots in Hargeisa town which was one of the signs of prosperity during 1936 continued during 1937, and many plots were sold at high prices.

Though jowari was cultivated on a large scale during 1937 the amount that passed through the zaribas was less than one-third of the amount for the previous year. The presumption is that jowari is being consumed more and more by the producers in the karias instead of being brought to the town for sale.

Erigavo District.—There is little of political interest to report. This district was unaffected by the Rome Agreement regarding grazing and water rights and there are no tribal movements across the frontier. Good rains produced ample grazing, and also encouraged the natives to increase the areas under jowari.

Trade fell off towards the end of the year owing to the fall in the price of skins.

Zeilah District.—British protected tribes over the frontier are treated well by the Italians. There have been a few cases where Italian Somali troops have looted stock from British Somalis, but this has occurred in isolated posts and would never happen when an Italian officer was present. Complaints when brought before the Italian authorities are promptly dealt with, and the treatment meted out in these cases is just.

From April onwards regular monthly meetings have been held between the District Officer, the Italian Regional Commissioner at Jijiga and the Resident at Aw Barreh to deal with all problems affecting the administration of the frontier tribes. The work of administering these tribes has been considerably easier this year.

An outstanding event of the year was the incursion of Fitaurari Baeda and some 1,300 Ethiopian refugees to Boraina in April. The party laid down their arms to the District Officer, and were maintained in a camp at Damuk for two months until quarters were built for them at Manjaseh.

Early in the year a fight took place at Kabri Bahr between the Gadabursi, Abrain and the Gadabursi, ba Habr Musa. A full enquiry was held by the Assistant District Officer, Zeilah, who decided that the responsibility rested mainly with the Abrain. The case is now completely settled.

Hassan Hersi, Esa Wardik, Ughaz of the Esa, visited Zeilah from 25th February, 1937, to 4th March, 1937. His visit was ostensibly in connexion with a tribal dispute, and was also regarded as a formal visit. He was installed in Zeilah in 1932.

Trade has again shown a very marked improvement over that of the previous year.

Customs collections for the year amounted to Rs.202,382 as against Rs.115,991 for 1936, showing an increase of Rs.86,391.

Trade with Ethiopia accounts largely for this expansion, which should only be regarded as a temporary prosperity likely to disappear in the course of the next few years as the Italians improve their own lines of communication.

Italians have visited Zeilah on several occasions during the year with a view to exploring the possibilities of the transit traffic; but before this traffic could be commenced, a costly road would have to be constructed through Jalelo and on to Fiki Yunis to connect with the Italian road near our frontier.

A considerable trade is done with the Italian posts across the frontier in all goods. Motor transport has made a big advance in the district, cars coming regularly from Zeilah and Hargeisa.

There has been a good trade with Jibuti in livestock during the year, but it has somewhat fallen off during the last few months, owing to the exodus of Italians from Jibuti.

Appendix

List of Publications relating to British Somaliland.

	£	s.	d.	*To be purchased from*
Laws of the Somaliland Protectorate—Revised Edition	1	0	0	The Treasurer, Berbera, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Notices, Proclamations Regulations and Rules in force on the 30th June, 1930	1	0	0	
Supplement to the Laws of the Somaliland Protectorate, 1930–32	1	0	0	
Ditto 1933–35	1	0	0	
Report on the Somaliland Agricultural and Geological Department for 1927 and 1928 ...	0	5	0	Crown Agents for the Colonies.
Somaliland Annual Geological Report, 1929 ...	0	2	0	Crown Agents for the Colonies.
The Geology of British Somaliland, by W. A. Macfadyen, M.C., M.A., Ph.D.(Cantab.), F.G.S., F.R.G.S., M.Inst.P.T. (Part I of the Geology and Palæontology of British Somaliland) ...	0	12	6	Crown Agents for the Colonies or through any Bookseller.

British Somaliland (Drake-Brockman), London, 1917.

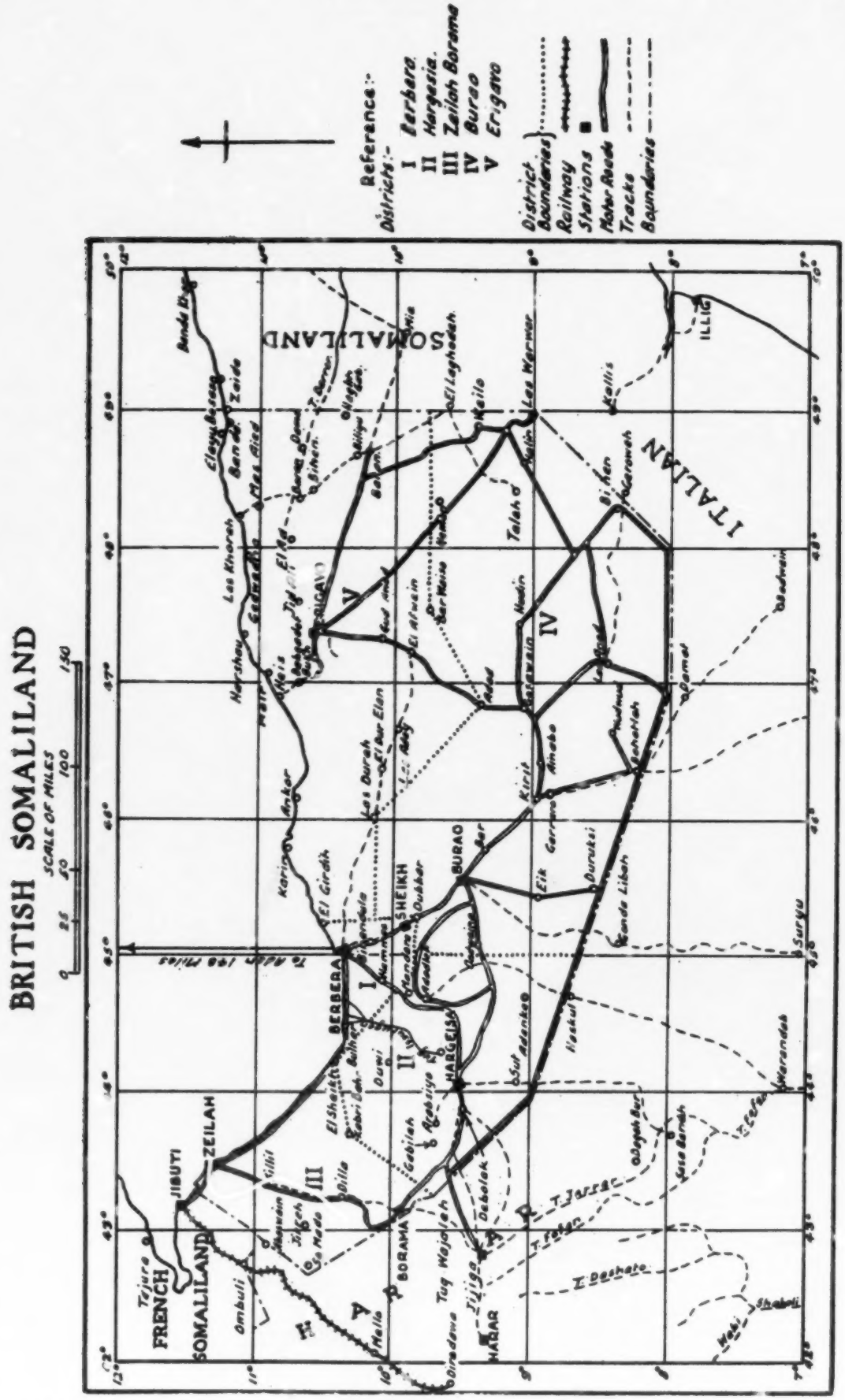
Somaliland (Hamilton), London, 1911.

The Mad Mullah of Somaliland (Jardine), London, 1923.

Sun, Sand and Somals (Rayne), London, 1921.

Seventeen Trips in Somaliland (Swayne), London.

Under the Flag and Somali Coast Stories (Walsh), London.



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Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

CONFERENCE OF COLONIAL DIRECTORS OF AGRICULTURE, JULY, 1935

Report and Proceedings [Colonial No. 136] 2s. (2s. 1d.)

THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC POSITION OF NORTHERN RHODESIA

Report of the Commission [Colonial No. 143] 7s. (7s. 6d.)

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN NORTHERN RHODESIA

Report by Major G. St. J. Orde Browne, O.B.E.
[Colonial No. 130] 2s. (2s. 3d.)

NYASALAND. FINANCIAL POSITION AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 152] 10s. (10s. 6d.)

PITCAIRN ISLAND

Reports by Mr. J. A. Neill and Duncan Cook, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.
[Colonial No. 155] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)

THE SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND THE COLONIAL SERVICES

Report of Committee [Cmd. 3554 (1930)] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS FOR THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730 (1934)] 9d. (10d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 3219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

Lists are issued showing schedules of Offices in the following Colonial Services with the names and brief biographical records of the holders. Each list includes the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State relating to the Service concerned :—

Colonial Administrative Service List	[Colonial No. 147] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)
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Colonial Forest Service List	[Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)
Colonial Legal Service List	[Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)
Colonial Medical Service List	[Colonial No. 139] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)
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or through any bookseller

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply

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Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations

PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN
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Further particulars as to the latest reports and prices are obtainable from the Sale Offices of

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CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

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